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ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

TWENTY-SIX VOLUMES.

—(25.)—

SLAVE TRADE.

Session

31 January — 29 July 1856.

VOL. LXII.

1856.



ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

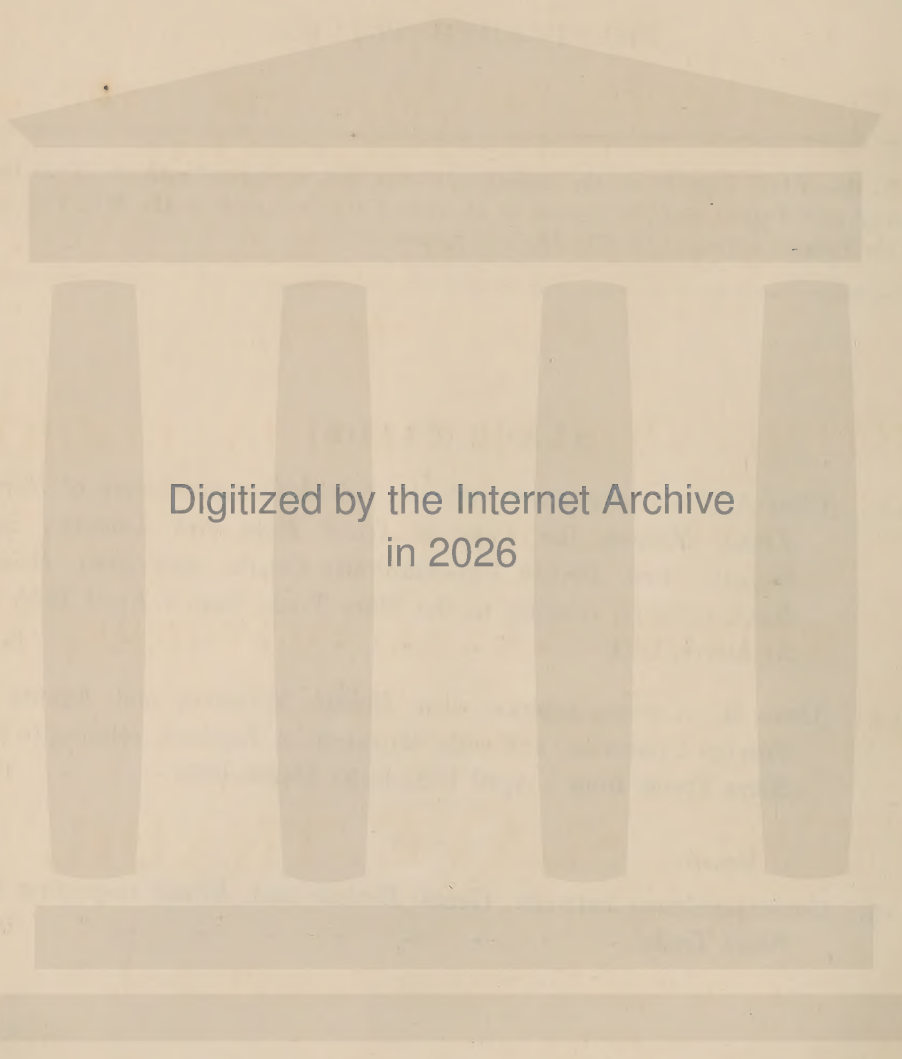
1856.

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Class A.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH THE

BRITISH COMMISSIONERS

AT

**SIERRA LEONE, HAVANA, THE CAPE OF
GOOD HOPE, AND LOANDA;**

AND

REPORTS FROM

BRITISH VICE-ADMIRALTY COURTS,

AND FROM

BRITISH NAVAL OFFICERS,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From April 1, 1855, to March 31, 1856.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1856.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Class A.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

BRITISH COMMISSIONERS.

SIERRA LEONE.

No. 1.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to Lord Wodehouse.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no case has come before the British and Netherlands, British and Spanish, British and Argentine, British and Uruguayan, British and Bolivian, British and Chilean, nor the British and Equatorial Mixed Courts of Justice, established in this Colony for the prevention of the illicit Traffic in Slaves, during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 2.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been emancipated, and consequently that none have been registered, by the Courts of Mixed Commission at this station, during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 3.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, July 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, that on the 16th of June last, Commander Leckie of Her Majesty's sloop "Ferret," having received information that a suspicious-looking vessel had entered the Rio Pongas, to the north of this colony, and that there was reason to believe her intention was to receive a cargo of slaves, at once proceeded in search of her, and on arriving off the Pongas, he dispatched two boats in charge of a Lieutenant up that river, where the vessel was found at anchor off Bangalong, twenty miles from its entrance, deserted by her crew, save a sick seaman (foreigner) who could not speak English, with neither name, flag, nor any papers whatever, to denote her national character, but thoroughly equipped for the Slave Trade, having on board, beams and planks to form a slave-deck, thirty-five large leaguers and about one hundred smaller water-casks, capable of containing more water than sufficient for her crew, two large iron boilers, two and a-half tons of rice, a quantity of jerked beef, besides four or five casks of aguardiente; whereupon Commander Leckie seized her on the 19th of June, as a vessel equipped for the Slave Trade, but entitled to no national character, and dispatched her to Sierra Leone for adjudication before the Vice-Admiralty Court.

The detained vessel reached this colony on the 28th of June, under charge of Lieutenant Coldstream Coates Robinson, and was libelled in the Vice-Admiralty Court on the 30th.

On the afternoon of the 6th of July, her crew, with the exception of the Captain, who remained behind, and of the sick foreigner who came up in her, arrived from the Rio Pongas and made statements before Her Catholic Majesty's Consul in this colony, to the effect that they were Spanish subjects, and that the prize sailed from the Havana on the 12th of April last, under the Spanish flag.

Being informed of these circumstances by my colleague, the Chevalier A. de Guillemar d'Aragon, we considered it our duty at once to bring these facts under the notice of Commander Leckie, the captor, who was then in port awaiting the adjudication of his prize, and to suggest to him the withdrawal of the case from the Vice-Admiralty Court, with a view of her being libelled in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice. This was accordingly done early the following morning.

A copy of our joint letter to Commander Leckie, with his reply, I have the honour to inclose herewith for your Lordship's information.

The condemnation of the detained vessel having been urged by the captor in the Vice-Admiralty Court, that Court proceeded to adjudication on the 7th of July, and condemned her as a vessel engaged in Slave Trade, but not entitled to any national character, under the Act 2nd and 3rd Victoria, cap. 73.

This vessel's engagement in the Slave Trade having, therefore, been fully established by her thorough equipment, Her Catholic Majesty's Consul has detained the whole of the crew that arrived from the Pongas, for the purpose of sending them to the Spanish Government by the next mail-packet, expected here on the 26th or 27th instant, to be dealt with according to the Penal Law of Spain of the 2nd of March, 1845.

It is reported that the captain of the condemned vessel, named Berry, a native of Biscay, and resident of Barcelona, formerly commanded the slave brigantine "*Paulina*," one of the two vessels taken by Her Majesty's ship "Linnet" in the year 1853, mentioned in Mr. Consul Campbell's despatch of the 5th of July of that year, and the "*Manuelita*," captured by Captain Macdonald, of the "Ferret," in 1854, which three prizes were all seized in the Rio Pongas. It is further reported that the vessel which forms the subject of this despatch cleared out at Havana on an ostensible voyage to Panamá, but came direct to the coast of Africa instead, where she would have taken a cargo of slaves to supply the Cuban

market, her owner being resident at Havana. The name of this individual I regret, my Lord, not having been able to ascertain, in consequence of the Captain's flight, just previous to capture, with the ship's papers, and the crew professing ignorance of the name of both vessel and owner, although they state the latter resides at Havana.

The admeasurement of this vessel was 220 tons, under the 22nd section of the Act 17 and 18 Victoria, cap. 104.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

The British and Spanish Commissioners to Commander Leckie.

Sir,

Mixed Commissions, Sierra Leone, July 7, 1855.

WE beg to acquaint you that the majority of the crew of the slave-vessel lately seized by you in the Rio Pongas, and which is pending adjudication before the Vice-Admiralty Court, arrived here yesterday, and acknowledged to the Chevalier A. de Guillemar d'Aragon, Her Catholic Majesty's Consul, that they were Spanish subjects, and that the vessel sailed from the Havana on the 12th of April last under the Spanish flag.

In communicating the above information to you, we consider it our duty to suggest that the case should be withdrawn from the Vice-Admiralty Court, and libelled in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice; it being, in our opinion, one that comes under the provisions of the existing Treaty between Great Britain and Spain of 1835.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Judge.
CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON,
Her Catholic Majesty's Commissioner.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Commander Leckie to the British and Spanish Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, July 7, 1855.

IN answer to your letter of this morning, I have the honour to state that as the vessel I have entered in the Vice-Admiralty Court for adjudication, had neither papers, or colours, or anything to prove her nationality, I can enter her into that Court only, and for which there is an especial Act of Parliament.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LECKIE.

No. 4.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 13.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, September 17, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the arrival in this colony, on the 2nd instant, of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens master, in charge of Mr. Charles F. Tapril, Second Master of Her Majesty's steam gun-vessel "*Minx*," having been detained on the 3rd of August last, when at anchor in the roadstead of Accra, by Lieutenants Webber and Roe, commanding Her Majesty's vessels "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and sent up to this British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice for adjudication, on account of her infringement of the sixth section of the tenth Article of the Spanish Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, for having on board, when detained, an extraordinary number of water-casks without a certificate from the custom-house at the place from which she cleared outwards, stating that a sufficient security had been given by her owner that such extra quantity of water-casks should be employed only in legal commerce.

On the 7th instant the case was submitted by the captor's proctor for admission into Court. After an examination of the papers by the British and Spanish Judges, the Spanish Judge was of opinion that the case should not be admitted into Court, for want of sufficient grounds for detention, whilst Mr. Weston entertained a contrary opinion. It therefore

became necessary to call in an arbitrator, to decide in accordance with the fourth Article in Annex B of the Spanish Treaty, when there is a difference of opinion between the two Judges; and in the absence of a Spanish Arbitrator, it devolved upon his Excellency Acting Governor Dougan to be sworn in as Her Majesty's Arbitrator *ad interim* in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice, which was accordingly done on the 10th instant, before Chief Justice Carr, when the two Judges having explained the point they differed on, his Excellency gave his opinion on the following day (11th), which agreeing with that of the Acting British Judge, the "*Fernando Po*" was duly admitted into Court on that day, the papers in the case filed, and the monition issued.

I have the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, the three opinions given in this case, and would beg most respectfully to observe, with respect to mine, that I did not consider it necessary to give my reasons for admitting the case, inasmuch as the charge under which the "*Fernando Po*" was detained by the seizors, and sent up for adjudication, supported by their declaration and affidavit of seizure, was, in my opinion, all that was required for the admission of the vessel, in order to ascertain the true merits of her detention.

The case being now before the Court, on its termination full particulars thereof shall be forwarded to your Lordship in due course.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Opinion of the British Judge ad interim in the case of the Spanish barque "Fernando Po."

THE Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" having been detained by Lieutenants Webber and Roe, of Her Britannic Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*" (duly authorised to make seizures of vessels suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, in pursuance of the provisions of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain of the 28th of June, 1835), and sent to this British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice for adjudication, on reasonable grounds of suspicion, I am of opinion that the case should be admitted into Court, in order that it may be fully investigated and its merits ascertained, as to the legality or illegality of her detention.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

September 8, 1855.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Opinion of Her Catholic Majesty's Judge ad interim against the admission into Court of the Spanish barque "Fernando Po."

CONSIDERING that one of the highest prerogatives of the Judges of the Mixed Commission Court, and one of the most important duties devolved on them, is the examination of the documents presented by the captors to ground the reasons which led them to detain a vessel navigating under one of the flags subject to their jurisdiction, in order that they might consider whether they constitute an ensemble of proofs sufficient to validate his demand of admission in the Court;

That from the right of this examination, emanates the faculty of rejecting or admitting the case presented;

That this faculty corresponds to a sentiment of equity, by which both the captors and captured may be benefited;

That this examination, to be conscientious and impartial, must bear not only on the documents presented, but also upon all that which is in close connexion with the vessel, namely, her course, her cargo, the spot on which she has been seized, the shores she has visited, and, above all, the respectability, the commercial morality of her owners and consignees;

Penetrated with the importance of his duty, the Judge of Spain has carefully looked into the papers belonging to the "*Fernando Po*," Torrens, master, the property of Messrs Vidal, Mustich, and Co., of Barcelona, consigned to Mr. Mustich, Governor of Fernando Po, seized in British waters at Accra, by the commanding officers of Her Britannic Majesty's ships of war "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," who now come forward, begging the Court to admit the aforesaid vessel to be dealt with, as being engaged, or ready to be so, in the Slave Trade.

The demand is accompanied by a letter of the captors, establishing that they have seized her on the following evidence:—

1st. For having on board 650 casks.

2ndly. For having berths on the poop-deck.

3rdly. For having a board on which the name "*Josefita*" is carved.

No other documents, no other proofs for her capture are laid before the Judges to justify the admission of the case. These are the only reasons the captors allege for having captured the "*Fernando Po*."

The Judge of Her Catholic Majesty, after having examined the papers and the evidence, is of opinion—

1st. That the ship's papers are perfectly correct, and delivered in the forms used in the Custom-offices of his country.

2ndly. That the manifest of the Custom-house of Barcelona, found amongst the ship's papers, declaring *bonâ fide* that the 650 casks now on board the above-named vessel, is legal. It also answers plainly to the provisions of the Xth Article of the Treaty, as it implies the deposit of the usual guarantee demanded for such articles put on board of a vessel; and the belief of the case being so is strengthened by the special legalization of the British Consul at Barcelona, who asserts officially that the certificate of the Customs has been delivered in the form used in the Port of Barcelona, consequently admitting that no other is wanted, given, or required.

3rdly. That the fact of detaining and seizing a vessel on account of 650 casks (each containing 240 gallons), on the part of the coast where the traffic in palm-oil is so considerable—where no slaves have been shipped for many, many years past, is an abuse of a dangerous faculty granted by a Treaty which is much to be regretted, and which to be excused, ought to be exercised towards all the vessels of England, America, and France anchoring in the same waters of Bimbia, Cameroons, Lagos, Whydah, which carry from 600 to 2,000 of those casks; and it is to the knowledge of the Spanish Judge that French vessels have no other document than a certificate similar to that of the "*Fernando Po*" when they visit this place with casks on board.

4thly. That to suppose that 650 casks on board of a vessel are to serve as tanks for a cargo of slaves of a corvette of 250 tons, is so ridiculous a presumption that, to dispel the mere thought of it, it is enough to state that no slaver ever carries more than 40 for a cargo of 500 slaves for a six weeks' voyage. What number, then, do the captors admit it would take to require the use of 650 casks of water? Let it be observed here, that they have found no boilers—no supply of extra provisions, and that the casks are accompanied by a great number of earthen jars to hold and bring palm-oil from the shore; they do not mention this in their letter, because they are one of the most convincing proofs that the "*Fernando Po*" was ready to take a cargo of palm-oil.

5thly. That to present as evidence of slave-dealing a berth-room on the poop-deck for the officers of the ship, and a board on which is carved the name of "*Josefita*," is not "only a spurious mixture to make up a case," but also an insult to the Court. A man-of-war can at all times seize in this harbour all the vessels in it, particularly the Americans, which have all of them fore and aft berths on deck for the officers of the vessels, and even passengers.

6thly. That in examining the Special Declaration of the British Consul at Barcelona, written with his own hand, attesting officially that the voyage of the "*Fernando Po*" is for legal purposes; that the well-known respectability of the owners, and a preceding voyage to the same point last year, convince him of her lawful operations; the officers who detained the "*Fernando Po*" ought immediately to have desisted from their purpose, and considered that in arresting her with such a document, they were committing serious offence against the authority of the Consulate, and were reducing the affirmation of a Consul and his official signature to be worth no more than a simple sheet of paper.

7thly. That the fact of the vessel belonging to the Governor named and appointed by Her Catholic Majesty to the Island of Fernando Po, so gratuitously and so unwarrantably insulted in the letter of the captors to his Excellency Governor Dougan, and of finding his furniture, &c., on board of a vessel consigned to him, and waiting to convey him to the seat of his Government, ought at once to have led the captors to recognize how erroneous were their gratuitous suppositions.

8thly. That the admission of the "*Fernando Po*" in the Mixed Court of Justice would be—

1. To recognize the violation of the right of property, and to absolve the gross error the captors have committed in seizing the "*Fernando Po*," engaged, beyond a doubt, in a lawful trade.

2. To admit as *prima facie* evidence that the British Consul at Barcelona can give officially a false certificate, or that he has been wilfully deceived, to commit a criminal act, by Messrs. Vidal and Co., of Barcelona, a firm as respectable as any of the best in London; that those gentlemen, as honourable as Coutts, Rothschild, &c., can be engaged in slave-trading.

3. To believe that the Governor lately appointed to Fernando Po (an appointment known here as well as at Acrrj), consignee and co-partner of Mr. Vidal, can, on going to take possession of his Government, ship a cargo of slaves for Cuba.

4. That an error, intentional or not, of cruising officers can oblige the Court to sit without sufficient reason being shown to do so, and cause the detention of a vessel engaged in a legal traffic to wait a month or two in the harbour for a judgment which in equity and justice must forcibly absolve her of all charges.

It is really time now, when the Spanish Government has been able to repress, and almost suppress, the inhuman Traffic of Slaves in the dominions of Her Catholic Majesty, by its last measures, to point out and to protest against such deplorable, arbitrary, and vexatious proceedings; they appear, indeed, to the most disinterested to be adopted with the view of sweeping the Spanish flag from the African seas, where it appears now to claim its part in the advantages resulting from legal commerce, by being chased by the officers of the British squadron, in violation of all the considerations due to lawful and commercial pursuits, so clearly demonstrated, and so wilfully and wildly trampled upon, as in the case of the "*Fernando Po*."

Whereas no document is shown, no proof given, even to suspect the "*Fernando Po*" to be engaged in the Slave Trade, but that, on the contrary, her antecedents, the points where she was detained, the respectability of the house to which she belongs, and that of the consignee (the Governor of Fernando Po), the certificate of the British Consul at Barcelona, demonstrate in the most irrefragable manner that she was engaged in lawful trade.

The Judge of Her Catholic Majesty declares on his honour and conscience that he cannot admit the "*Fernando Po*" into Court.

He adds to this declaration the expression of his sincere regret to see that officers entrusted with so delicate a mission as that of visiting and arresting a merchant-vessel on her course of voyage, could have taken upon themselves to arrest the "*Fernando Po*," and drive her into Sierra Leone, without a substantial evidence to invalidate the clear and *bonâ fide* documents she had on board to protect her against all suspicion, and that they have shown themselves so much wanting in respect to the Court, as to lay before the Judges evidences which are an insult to their reason, to their equity, and to the dignity of their professional and official character.

(Signed) CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

Sierra Leone, September 8, 1855.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

Opinion of the British Arbitrator ad interim in the case of the Spanish barque "Fernando Po."

THE Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" was brought into the port of Sierra Leone for adjudication in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice, and the vessel's papers, with the declaration of the captors, and affidavit of seizure have been brought before it, and, as a difference of opinion exists between the British and Spanish Judges as to the admission of the said vessel into Court, I will now state my reasons for agreeing with the British Judge that the captors of the "*Fernando Po*" should be allowed to proceed with the prosecution, in order that evidence might be taken and the case carefully investigated, so as to be able to judge of the legality or illegality of her detention by the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*."

The detention of this vessel by these two ships of war, appears to have been justified by the authority of the Admiralty under which they acted, and by the sixth section of the Xth Article of the Treaty for the Abolition of the Slave Trade, signed at Madrid on the 28th of June, 1835, between Great Britain and Spain; she having on board at the time of the detention, as stated in the affidavit of seizure and declaration, an extraordinary number of water-casks without a certificate from the custom-house at the place from which she cleared outwards, stating that a sufficient security had been given by her owner, that such a quantity of casks should be employed only in lawful commerce.

The Xth Article, above referred to, provides that in such a case not only shall the detention be legal, but the circumstance, if proved, shall be considered *prima facie* evidence of the actual employment of the vessel in the Slave Trade, and the vessel shall thereupon be condemned and declared lawful prize, unless satisfactory evidence on the part of the master or owners shall establish that such vessel was at the time of her detention or capture employed in some legal pursuit.

In this case no such certificate has been produced. The mere entry in the manifest of casks having been shipped on board cannot do away with the necessity of the master or owners of this vessel having procured this document at the port of clearance. It appears also, from the crowded state of the vessel, it was impossible for the captors to ascertain the exact number of water-casks on board, but it is stated by them there was an extraordinary number, and if such is the case, I can see no reason whatever for withholding the captor's right of prosecuting this vessel. I must confess I do not place that implicit reliance upon the effect of the British Consul's certificate which the Spanish Judge thinks it entitled to, because it is extremely carefully worded. It states "he has reason to believe that the present voyage of the '*Fernando Po*' may be looked upon as a *bond fide* legitimate trading expedition" and this certificate is granted at the especial request of Don Vidal himself; but even if this certificate was stated in the most positive terms, I submit that it is no protection to the vessel if there are circumstances on board which indicate a trading in slaves.

(Signed) R. DOUGAN, *Acting Governor*.

Sierra Leone, September 11, 1855.

No. 5.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, September 27, 1855.

MY despatch of the 17th instant made your Lordship acquainted with the detention and admission into this Mixed British and Spanish Court, of the case of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," captured by Her Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*."

After the issuing of the monition, and the examination of the witnesses in preparatory, my colleague the Spanish Judge and myself deemed it necessary for the crew of that vessel to remain on board until the decision of the case.

An order was accordingly issued to the Marshal to relieve the prize officer from the charge of the vessel, leaving the Spanish crew on board, together with the prize crew. This order Commander Leckie, the senior naval officer of the Northern Division, who was here at the time, requested might be recalled, on the ground of its being incompatible with the naval service for the prize officer to be separated from his men; at the same time stating that, if the Spanish crew remained, the prize crew must of necessity also remain, and representing the inconvenience which would thereby be entailed upon Her Majesty's service by their detention.

The Court, after due consideration of the foregoing letter, issued another order to the Marshal on the 18th instant to relieve the prize crew, by placing eleven men and a shipkeeper, in their stead, on board the "*Fernando Po*," and communicated that fact to Commander Leckie, as per Inclosure No. 2.

The Marshal having reported on the 20th instant that, notwithstanding he had relieved the prize officer and crew, as directed by the Court,

they still remained on board up to that date, the Judges, on the following day (the 21st), thought it necessary to ascertain from Commander Leckie whether it was by his orders they continued to remain on board. To this communication that officer returned an answer, a copy of which is herewith forwarded.

In the meantime a petition was presented by the captor's proctor, based on a letter from Commander Leckie, praying for the removal of the Spanish crew, in order that the prize crew might rejoin their respective ships, leaving the detained vessel entirely under the Marshal's control. This petition was not granted, as will be seen by the Judge's indorsement thereon, and the reasons therein assigned for its rejection. The Court, however, addressed a letter on the 22nd to Commander Leckie, remonstrating against his interference, and desiring the removal of the prize officer and crew without further delay; and on the 24th an answer was returned to that communication, a copy of which is herewith inclosed, wherein Commander Leckie promised the removal of the prize officer and crew, which he subsequently carried into effect.

From the foregoing correspondence it will be perceived that Commander Leckie has raised objections against the practice the Court has adopted in the case of the "*Fernando Po*," and it is necessary to explain to your Lordship the reasons which led the Court to adopt the course pursued in this case.

One of his principal objections is, that it is contrary to the practice of the Court to allow the detained crew to remain on board prize vessels after they are taken charge of by the Marshal.

To this objection I beg to explain, my Lord, that, by the Treaty with Spain of 1835, and the Penal Law of 1845, the British and Spanish Court has not only jurisdiction over Spanish vessels suspected of slave-trading, but also over Spanish subjects, who, in case of condemnation, are to be sent to the Regente of the Court of Justice at Palmas, in the Grand Canaries; and the Mixed Court, possessing no power to commit the crew to prison until after condemnation, according to Viscount Palmerston's despatch of the 27th October, 1846,* the Judges deviated from the practice hitherto adopted in these Mixed Courts by ordering the crew to remain on board the "*Fernando Po*" until the issue of the case be known, and which was done with the view of preventing them escaping from punishment, in case of condemnation.

With respect to the extra expense complained of, I would beg to observe that, on all occasions when the Marshal takes charge of a detained vessel from the prize officer, he places a shipkeeper and four or five men on board to guard the prize. In this instance there has been an addition of six men, at an expense of 9s. per diem, in consequence of the Spanish crew remaining on board; but this extra number of hands would have been required, under any circumstances, to assist in the discharge of a great portion of the "*Fernando Po's*" cargo, which was deemed necessary to enable the surveyors to complete their survey and inspection on her equipment.

The possibility of the destruction of evidence by the Spanish crew being on board, as expressed by Commander Leckie, appears to me to have no real foundation, inasmuch as the Marshal, on taking charge, not only seals all the hatches with the seal of the Court, but leaves his men on board to act as guard against such casualties taking place, and, unless the shipkeeper and labourers are dishonest (which, from experience, there is no reason to suppose), no attempt to destroy evidence against the vessel can be made without detection.

With reference, also, to the supposed facilities afforded the Spaniards in running away with their vessel, I beg most respectfully to state that prize vessels are generally moored near shore, where there are always other vessels within hail; and I can hardly think it possible that such an attempt could be successfully carried out, whilst assistance might be easily given to the shipkeeper and his people on board from other ships, if necessary.

Commander Leckie appears to suppose that this new arrangement

* See Class A, presented 1847, page 95.

will be applicable to all vessels adjudicated by these Mixed Courts, whereas it is only in the Spanish Court that such a course is necessary, with the view of securing the persons of the crew, the apprehension of whom, after condemnation, might be attended with danger, and perhaps prove unsuccessful, if they were allowed to go free.

It appearing, from Commander Leckie's representation, that the rules of Her Majesty's naval service did not allow the prize crew to leave until the detained crew had been discharged, the Court adopted the only available remedy by placing sufficient hands in their stead, and thus did away with the necessity of the prize crew being detained against the interest of Her Majesty's service.

Should the course the Court has adopted on this occasion be disapproved of by Her Majesty's Government, I respectfully request that I may be favoured with instructions respecting the safe custody of the crews of detained Spanish vessels, pending adjudication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Commander Leckie to the British and Spanish Commissioners.

Sirs,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, September 16, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to state that it has been reported to me by the officer in command of the prize crew of the "*Fernando Po*," that the Marshal of the Court has ordered him to leave the vessel, his men remaining on board.

I am sure I have only to represent to you that it is incompatible with Her Majesty's naval service, to have this order of the Court recalled.

In consequence of the edict of the Court that the Spanish crew remain, and of necessity, if they remain, the prize crew also must remain on board, I feel it my duty to represent for your consideration the delay and inconvenience caused to Her Majesty's service, at the same time wishing in no way to interfere.

If it is necessary that the Spanish crew remain on board the vessel, it is also necessary that the prize crew remain; this entails two of Her Majesty's vessels, viz., "*Minx*" and "*Dolphin*," losing the services of a considerable portion of their crews for a long period, rendering them consequently less efficient: it also entails that another of Her Majesty's vessels shall wait at Sierra Leone, or call in, leaving other duties, to take on board the said prize crew, whenever the case may be adjudicated; but another, and not the least to be considered, point, is, that the men are liable at this season of the year, by being detained so long on board the "*Fernando Po*," where they have only deck accommodation, to contract fever or other disease, and unless a man-of-war be detained have no immediate medical attendance.

I wish to make this representation to the Court without in the least interfering or offending, in case it may be in the power of the Court to recall their edict.

(Signed) CHARLES LECKIE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

The British and Spanish Commissioners to Commander Leckie.

Sir,

Mixed Commissions, Sierra Leone, September 18, 1855.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt yesterday of your letter of the 16th instant, respecting the necessity of some measures being adopted by the Judges of the British and Spanish Mixed Court, to allow the prize officer and crew of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" to leave that vessel, inasmuch as their remaining on board would not only deprive Her Britannic Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*" of their services, but also subject them to sickness at this season of the year.

We have taken into our serious consideration the subject of your letter now under reply, and will issue the necessary instructions to the Marshal to relieve the prize crew from the "*Fernando Po*," by placing sufficient hands on board in their stead.

We have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.
CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

The British and Spanish Commissioners to Commander Leckie.

Sir,

Mixed Commissions, Sierra Leone, September 21, 1855.

THE Marshal to the British and Spanish Court has reported to us that notwithstanding our instructions issued on the 18th instant, to relieve the prize crew of the detained Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," by placing sufficient hands in their room, they had not up to 3 o'clock P.M., yesterday, left that vessel, and we request to be informed whether it is by your orders they remain on board.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

T. C. WESTON.

CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 5.

Commander Leckie to the British and Spanish Commissioners.

Sirs,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, September 22, 1855.

SOME explanation seems to me necessary before answering your letter of yesterday.

The prize officer on the morning of the 15th September reported to me that "the Marshal had taken charge of the '*Fernando Po*,' and ordered him out of the vessel, but that his crew were to remain;" thus superseding that officer from the command of his men. This, as senior naval officer present, I could not allow, as it was interfering with a point purely naval. This first caused me to address you, which I did, expressing that I had no wish to interfere in any way with the duties of the Court.

September the 18th your letter informed me that the Court had ordered the prize-crew to leave the vessel. I was also informed that the Spanish crew were still to remain on board. This being a new, and I believe unprecedented course, it required my most serious consideration as senior officer of this division, that the strict instructions and orders under which I act from Her Majesty's Government for the "suppression of the Slave Trade" might be fully carried out; and considering that by ordering the prize-crew to be withdrawn, leaving a crew of fourteen Spaniards on board, I should be facilitating the chance of the escape of the vessel from this harbour, as the Marshal's crew of ten black men could little hinder such a proceeding, were the Spaniards determined to effect it.

Another consideration was, that by removing the prize-crew (the Spaniards remaining on board), I should be facilitating the destroying the evidence against the vessel: for knowing, as the Spaniards do, where everything is stowed in the vessel, many opportunities would occur for throwing overboard slave-irons, handcuffs, coppers, &c., if they found the case going against them. A guard of hired labourers (black) would be little impediment to such proceedings.

The "*Fernando Po*" was brought into this harbour September 2nd, and in consequence of the Spanish crew remaining on board, the prize-crew have been and are still detained from rejoining their respective ships, both of which are small vessels, and should they in the meantime meet with other vessels engaged in the Slave Trade, will not be able to carry out their orders for its suppression, not being able to afford men to place on board as prize-crews, rendering them thus for a long time partially inefficient.

Her Majesty's ship under my command is also detained here from other most necessary duties, as I cannot leave the said prize crew, living as they have been so long, and still are, with only deck accommodation, at this sickly season without medical aid.

Should this new system of keeping the crews of vessels detained on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, on board, become the general practice, the delay and inconvenience to Her Majesty's service will be immense. It will and does attach itself not only to the particular case before the Court, but to the whole system for the suppression of the Slave Trade, arranged and brought to its present perfection at an enormous cost to the Government.

Such are my reasons for having given the officer in charge of the prize-crew orders to remain on board. He has given up all charge of the vessel to the Marshal, merely acting now as a guard against the Spanish crew running away with the vessel (to be very easily effected at night if no man-of-war is in the harbour), or their destroying or making away with such articles as would lead to her condemnation.

I beg to apologize if I by this interfere with or offend the Court. Nothing is further from my wish or intention, and I write this that fewer questions will be required to be asked me, and less correspondence incurred.

I, having been informed that the proctor had petitioned against the Spanish crew remaining on board the vessel, have waited the decision of the Court to decide on removing the prize-crew.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES LECKIE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 5.

Petition.

In the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice, Colony of Sierra Leone.

In the case of the Barque "*Fernando Po*," Thomas Torrens, master. To their Honours the Judges of the said Court.

The Petition of John Dyett, Proctor, on behalf of Lieutenant Edmund Webber, Commanding Her Majesty's brigantine of war "*Dolphin*," and Lieutenant Richard Henry Roe, Commanding Her Majesty's steam gun-vessel "*Minx*," and the Officers and Crews of the said Vessels,

Humbly sheweth,—

THAT your petitioner, on the 19th instant, received the accompanying letter from Commander Leckie, of Her Majesty's ship "*Ferret*," the senior officer present on this station, to which your petitioner begs to call your Honour's attention.

That in consequence of the orders of Captain Leckie, the prize-crew still remain on board the "*Fernando Po*," and the Acting Marshal of the Court has informed your petitioner that he has also placed on board the barque "*Fernando Po*" twelve black men, as a security for the said vessel against the Spanish crew who are remaining on board the "*Fernando Po*" by the order of your Honours.

That these twelve hands add very considerably to the expense of the seizors, entailing an extra and unnecessary expense of 1*l.* a-day,

That your petitioner begs most respectfully to call your Honours' attention to the fact that by the Spanish crew remaining on board, the unloading of the vessel is attended with much inconvenience, and greatly retarded, which likewise adds to the captors' expenses.

That by the prize-crew remaining on board, which it appears they must do, by the rules of Her Majesty's Navy, until the captured vessel is relieved of her crew, most serious inconvenience is experienced by Her Majesty's vessels of war the "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," who are deprived of the services of their men for an unnecessary and lengthened period, and also keeps the "*Ferret*" in this harbour from attending to the service on which she is engaged—viz., the suppression of the Slave Trade; as Captain Leckie does not feel himself justified in leaving, until he can take the prize-crew of the "*Fernando Po*" with him.

That your petitioner further begs most respectfully to bring under the notice of your Honours that the allowing the Spanish crew to remain on board after the vessel is in charge of the Marshal, is most unprecedented, such an occurrence never having previously been known.

That your petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honours will be pleased by your order to direct that the Spanish crew of the said vessel, the "*Fernando Po*," may be removed from her, as has always been done in similar cases, in order that the prize-crews of the said vessel may return to their ships, when the vessel will be entirely under the control of the Marshal, who will then be in a position to dispense with the twelve extra hands placed on board of her by him, and thus reduce the expenses.

And your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

Freetown, September 21, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN DYETT,

Proctor for Seizors.

Inclosure in the foregoing Petition.

Sir,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, September 19, 1855.

The Judges of the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice have written me that they have issued orders to the Marshal of the Court that the prize-crew be removed, the Spanish crew remaining on board.

I beg to state, as senior officer present, that I think such an order being carried out detrimental in many ways to the cause of the captors, in the especial case before the Court; also, if such a precedent be established, that it will cause many delays in adjudication (detaining thereby prize-crews and officers) and many facilities for destroying and doing away with the evidence for condemnation, which might turn up on the vessel being surveyed.

In explanation, without wishing to interfere in the Court, I beg to suggest that I consider the captors are not to be expected to trust their prize to the chance of being lost, by being taken out of the harbour at night by the Spanish crew. Moreover, that when being cleared for the surveyors, I can see nothing to prevent her Spanish crew at night, knowing as they do exactly where every article is stowed on board, quietly making away with such articles, such as slave-irons, handcuffs, coppers, &c. &c., or any other articles that would, if found, condemn their vessel. I simply ask the question, why is such facility for evading justice to be allowed to people against whom there is already, by the previous search and other strong evidence, such as want of papers and circumstantial evidence, proof that they are engaged in the nefarious traffic of the Slave Trade?

The prize-crew will not be removed, until I hear from you, Sir, as the proctor acting for the captors, that you consider they can be, without detriment to their individual cause, and the cause of the navy at large on this station engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to inclose a letter from Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent at Liberia, thinking it will bear upon the credibility of a Spaniard who, I hear, has arrived here to add his testimony to the character of the "*Fernando Po*" and her master. Also a Liberia paper. I think probably this Spaniard above is master of the schooner mentioned in the letter. You are at liberty to take a copy of the letter, which I shall be happy to attest. The original I require.

I beg to add that information has been sent on by July mail to the Commander-in-chief, that two Spanish vessels from the same Spanish house were on their way to the Bights, for the purpose of

procuring slave cargoes. The natural chain of reasoning is that the "*Fernando Po*" and "*Mariana*" (not yet captured) are the two vessels, and the captain of the latter has arrived here to feel his own way, and give evidence for his friend.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES LECKIE.

Endorsement on the foregoing Petition.

Not granted.—The instructions respecting the disposal of crews of Spanish vessels detained on suspicion of being engaged in Slave Trade, do not permit the Court to sanction the removal of the crew of the barque "*Fernando Po*" from the vessel, while pending adjudication.

The fears expressed by Commander Leckie, in his communication attached to this petition, with reference to the safety of the vessel and the possibility of any suspicious article being removed by the crew of the "*Fernando Po*" are not likely to occur, inasmuch as the eleven men with the shipkeeper placed on board that vessel, together with closed hatches, under the seal of the Court, are sufficient to prevent any such casualties taking place.

The Judges are further of opinion that Commander Leckie has not paid that deference to their instructions which they demand, by ordering the prize officer and crew to remain on board after they have been relieved, and which, if persisted in, it will be their painful duty to remonstrate against; the Court being responsible for its acts to the British and Spanish Governments in any measures it may think proper to adopt, with reference to such detained vessels as are brought under its jurisdiction.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.
CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

September 22, 1855.

Inclosure 6 in No. 5.

The British and Spanish Commissioners to Commander Leckie.

Sir. *Mixed Commissions, Sierra Leone, September 22, 1855.*

A PETITION to remove the Spanish crew from the "*Fernando Po*" is presented to this Court, in which it said that you have ordered the prize officers and their crew to remain on board that vessel, in opposition to the orders the Court has issued in both cases.

This petition is based upon a letter now under consideration, written and signed by you, addressed to the captor's proctor, in which you take the liberty of censuring the above-mentioned orders, and you go so far as to state peremptorily "that the prize-crew shall not leave the '*Fernando Po*' until you hear from the proctor himself what he judges proper to do;" acknowledging so far, that you recognise a proctor admitted in the Court by condescension to be superior to its decisions, and that he can dictate to the Judges.

Such a language deliberately written by a Commander in Her Britannic Majesty's Royal Navy is an outrage purposely offered to a Court whose decisions are sovereign, and it deserves to be officially taken notice of, and to be brought by us before Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

On a representation made by you on the 16th instant, which suggested the removal of the prize-crew on the plea of the necessities of the service on board of their respective ships, and of the sickness they were liable to contract by their remaining any longer on board of the suspected prize, the Court issued an order which immediately placed the "*Fernando Po*" under the charge of its Marshal, with a sufficient force to guard the vessel, and by so doing relieved the officers and men represented by you as so much wanted on board the "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and so liable to contract sickness here.

The Court is much surprised to learn to-day by the petition of the captor's proctor, and your own letter annexed thereto, that so far from removing the prize-crew you have ordered them to remain on board the "*Fernando Po*," declaring yourself superior to the power and decrees of the Court. Such an act (apart from its impropriety) leaves no other alternative to the Court but the conviction that the statement on which you based your petition, referred to therein, was not entirely correct.

Without entering with you into the motives which led the Judges to issue the orders censured by you in the letter presented, as it would be unbecoming in them to do so, we give you immediate orders to remove the prize-crew from the "*Fernando Po*," and to leave therein the Spaniards at the absolute command of the Court, and under its Marshal.

We inform you further that if we have the regret to see our orders discarded, we shall take proper steps to have the decree of the Court respected in a case in which your interference has been uncalled for.

We have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.
CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 5.

Commander Leckie to the British and Spanish Commissioners.

Sirs,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, September 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to belong to a service the regulations and customs of which do not admit of private feeling interfering with public duty, nor can I condescend to answer your letter of the 22nd of September, in the intemperate language in which it is written; such may be compatible with the dignity of your Court, but certainly is not with the character of a British naval officer.

I, in the execution of my duty, have written letters which are merely representations, certainly not dictations to the Court, each with a fully expressed wish not to interfere or give offence.

My letter to the proctor, I beg to remind you, is not a letter to the Court; I believe it was appended to the petition to show a portion of the reasons on which that petition was formed.

The quotation you make from my letter of the 16th of September is a portion only, and not the whole paragraph, and therefore conveys a wrong meaning.

I have been waiting the answers of the Court to the before-mentioned petition, and also to my representations; having received these, and the present state of the vessel, also the extent to which the survey has been carried, removing my stated objections, and as other serious duties call me from Sierra Leone, I shall now remove the prize crew.

As to your immediate order to myself, I am not aware that your jurisdiction extends to Her Majesty's ships. I see nothing in the wording of my instructions that will authorize me paying any attention to it.

I have the honour to request that you will forward the whole correspondence to Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

In the British navy all letters on important subjects are always so forwarded. I shall not fail to make my report on the whole case, and its bearings on the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES LECKIE.

No. 6.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, October 22, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 17th ultimo, reporting the detention of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" by Her Majesty's vessels "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and her admission into Court on the 11th of that month, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that owing to delays occasioned by the sickness of the proctors for captors and claimant, the case is not yet decided, and I am consequently unable to forward to your Lordship the report of the same by this mail-packet.

I expect the trial will take place in the course of a few days, when I will not fail to report the issue, with the particulars thereof, to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 7.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, November 9, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatches dated respectively the 17th September and 22nd October, relative to the detention and prosecution of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens, master, I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship that that vessel was adjudicated on the 30th ultimo, when she was restored to her owner, without costs and damages.

The proceedings in this case were unusually lengthy, and the adjudication of the vessel delayed for some days, owing to the illness of the proctors on both sides; but the decision of the case was given before the termination of the period specified by the Treaty.

A report of the particulars of this case, I have the honour herewith to transmit for your Lordship's information.

From the evidence filed, it will be seen that the "*Fernando Po*" left Barcelona on the 17th of June last, with half a cargo of merchandize, and 650 casks put up and in shooks, regularly manifested and cleared from that port, as certified by the British Consul, and bound for the port and Island of Fernando Po, consigned to Vidal, Mustich and Co., at that Island, as stated in the body of the clearances, although the headings of the same were marked "exportation for America." That she was the property of José Vidal y Ribas of that place, at the head of a Company whose social capital amounted to 75,000 dollars, and whose object, it is stated, was to engage in the licit trade on the coast of Africa, and with the Island of Fernando Po. She arrived at Gibraltar the 29th of June, and took, *in transitu*, from a floating hulk the remainder of her cargo, consisting of English and Swiss merchandize, to be delivered to Don Domingo Mustich, and thence sailed to Dutch Accra, without touching at any intermediate place, where she arrived in that roadstead on the 31st of July, and was detained there on the 3rd August, by Lieutenants Webber and Roe, commanding Her Majesty's vessels "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*."

A claim, supported by an affidavit, was filed on the 19th of September by the master, Tomas Torrens, on behalf of the owner José Vidal y Ribas of Barcelona, to whom the master swore the vessel and cargo belonged, except some furniture, belonging to Don Mustich, Governor of Fernando Po, and a few articles belonging to himself, his own private venture.

I would beg leave most respectfully to draw your Lordship's attention to the irregularity of the captors in not adhering to the requirements of the 3rd clause of Article IV of the Treaty with Spain of 1835, and also in not forwarding a declaration of the detention of the vessel in the usual form. These irregularities led to an attempt on the part of the claimant's proctor to upset the proceedings in the case, on the ground of the illegality of the detention. Her Catholic Majesty's Judge also took this view of the case, which was opposed by the British Judge; and recourse having been had to arbitration, Governor Hill, who in the meantime was sworn in as Acting British Arbitrator, in the absence of an arbitrator on the part of Spain, decided that the non-compliance of the captors with the formalities required by the 3rd clause of Article IV of the Treaty could only be considered as an irregularity, not affecting the legality of the seizure of the "*Fernando Po*."

The opinions given on this disputed point, I have the honour to inclose.

Another objection was raised by the claimant's proctor to the letter of Mr. Newnham, the British Consul at Monrovia, dated September 10, 1855, being received as evidence, although the petition accompanying that letter had been granted by both Judges. It subsequently appeared that the Spanish Judge was under the impression that the petition was only to be received and filed, without admitting the letter as evidence, whereas the British Judge thought differently, and the matter was referred to the Acting British Arbitrator, who was present in Court and heard the arguments on that point, and who decided verbally that it should be admitted as evidence.

The statements of the master and mate, were that the "*Fernando Po*" was to take palm oil and African produce; and that the number of empty casks on board were for the purpose of holding the palm oil. Joaquim Roig, who was also a witness in the case, and master of the Spanish schooner "*Mariana*," belonging to the same owner, as well as the master of the "*Fernando Po*," swore that the two cargoes of the "*Fernando Po*" and "*Mariana*," including the casks, were to be divided between the two vessels, for the purpose of obtaining that article in barter; the "*Fernando Po*," being the larger vessel, to be filled first. This evidence is confirmed by a letter from José Vidal y Ribas, dated "Barcelona, 16th June, 1855," addressed to Mr. Domingo Mustich, "*Poste Restante*," Sierra Leone, in which he stated that he hoped from the good assortment of merchandise he would receive, he might be able to collect quickly the cargoes of oil for the "*Mariana*" and "*Fernando Po*." There was also another letter from

Domingo Mustich and Co., dated "Aguia," 3rd October, 1855, to Joaquim Roig, wherein it is mentioned that the balance of three accounts at Accra should be paid in oil or cash, preferring always the first. At Sericafé, it is stated, they would send an order for 6,000 gallons, which were to be given to them at the end of November; they had 10,000 gallons, of which 7,000 were shipped. Translated copies of these letters I have the honour to inclose; they evidently show the nature of the trade in which the "*Fernando Po*" and "*Mariana*" were to have been engaged on the coast.

Some stress has been laid upon the inquiry made by Mr. Mustich respecting the procurement of slaves, as evincing his intention to be engaged in that Traffic; but as it subsequently turned out by the letter of the owner, previously referred to, that the "*Mariana*" was to take in palm oil, and which assertion is corroborated by Mr. Mustich's letter also referred to, the Court was of opinion that the statement made before the British Consul at Monrovia by the master of the Hamburg schooner "*Liberia*," could not have much weight in affecting the merits of the case of the "*Fernando Po*."

The bond given by the master and owner to the Marine Department at Barcelona to the amount of 1,250*l.*, for the proper use of the Royal passport, which prohibits the engagement of the vessel in contraband or slave trade, under a penalty of the forfeiture of half of the vessel, a translated copy of which is herewith forwarded; the certificate of the British Consul at Barcelona, stating that a vessel belonging to the same owner had made a legitimate voyage to the Gulf of Guinea in 1854; the fact of bulk not having been broken before her detention at Accra, when it was done so by the captors for the purpose of searching her; the surveyors not finding any article of equipment on board, except the excess of water-casks, which were cleared at Barcelona, and intended to hold palm oil, as shown by the evidence and confirmed by the owner's and consignee's letters, are circumstances which led the Court to arrive at the conclusion that the "*Fernando Po*" was engaged in a legal pursuit; and although she had rendered herself liable to seizure by not procuring a Custom-house certificate for the excess of water-casks as required by the Treaty, there were not sufficient grounds to warrant her condemnation; and she was accordingly restored without costs and damages as before-mentioned.

A copy of the judgment pronounced by the Court on the occasion, I beg herewith to transmit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Report of the Case of the Spanish barque "Fernando Po."

THE following papers were found on board this vessel, namely:—

No. 1.

Royal Passport of Mercantile Navigation No. 1,560, granting to Captain Pilot, Thomas Torrens, a native of Tarragona, and his place of matriculation, permission for his corvette the "*Fernando Po*," of the burthen of 250 tons, to navigate and trade in all the seas of the globe and parts of the world. To be in force for three years, counting from the day he embarks, according as it is stated by the note of the Commandant of the place. Given at the Palace, 30th December, 1854. Countersigned by Antonio Santa Cruz, Minister of Marine. There is a note at the back to the following effect, namely: This Royal Passport of Mercantile Navigation for all the seas of the globe, No. 1,560, issued by me, the Undersigned, Commandant of the Naval Depot, at this date extended in favour of Captain and Pilot Don Tomas Torrens, and vessel therein expressed, having performed all that is required by the Ordinance, and with the obligation devolving on its termination, which must not be excused. Given at Barcelona, the 16th of June, 1855.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE LA ROSA,
Commandant.

Another Note.

The captain has been made acquainted by me with the Royal Order concerning the prohibition of the traffic in slaves.

(Date and signature as the foregoing.)

Another Note.

To the Royal passport is annexed the folio, with a Royal stamp, as it is ordered by the Royal Order of the 25th of October, 1851.

(Date and signature as the above.)

Another Note.

The term of this Royal passport is from the 30th of March last, as by the Royal Order of the 10th of February, 1850.

(Date and signature as the last.)

No. 2.

Muster-roll of the said vessel, Captain Tomas Torrens, on a voyage to Fernando Po, with goods and effects, taking with him the crew, whom it is necessary to bring back; the captain above mentioned is going to take in a cargo for abroad, and has for his defence six muskets, five swords, and corresponding ammunition.

Barcelona, June 16, 1855.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE LA ROSA,
Commandant of the Marine at Barcelona.

Then follow the names and places of matriculation of the second pilot, or mate, boatswain, two cooks, steward, seven sailors, and a boy, with the following observation—The crew of this vessel consists of fourteen persons, including the captain.

Barcelona, June 16, 1855.

(Signed) FULGO. MARTIN MORA,
Adjutant of Details.

There are eight printed regulations attached to the foregoing, which are signed by De la Rosa, and dated Barcelona, 16 June, 1855.

There is also the following endorsement, namely: Presents herself and proceeds to her destination of Fernando Po with the same cargo, to which is added, iron, snuff, and cotton goods, without any alteration in the crew.

Gibraltar, June 29, 1855.

(Signed) YTE. ALISSO.

This remark is made at the bottom: As captain of the embarkation referred to, I have received from Don Francisco de la Rosa, Brigadier in the army, and Military Commandant of the Marine of this province, the preceding list of crew, of which a copy remains in the Commandancia, in order to keep an account of the individuals whose residences it contains during the voyage I am about to make to Fernando Po, which individuals are my choice, and obliges me to fulfil the requirements mentioned therein and in the Royal patent given to me in virtue of confidence and receipt which I have given.

Barcelona, June 16, 1855.

(Signed) TOMAS TORRENS.

Seen.—Good.

(Signed) DE LA ROSA.

The departure from port is dated 17th June, 1855.

No. 3.

A countersign for Cruizers No. 166, representing a vessel cut in half, printed on a piece of parchment cut in a particular way to fit the other half, in the hands of a cruiser for their recognition. On the back is written thus: It is given in favour of Don Tomas Torrens, second pilot of the Matricula of Tarragona, and for the corvette "*Fernando Po*," 250 tons burthen.

Barcelona, June 16, 1855.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DE LA ROSA,
Commandant.

This countersign is wrapped up in a stamped paper of the class called "Illustres" with the arms of Spain also stamped, which cost sixty reals, and is dated 1855.

No. 4.

Are two bills of health, stamped together, one of Barcelona dated 16th June, 1855, certifying that the Spanish corvette named "*Fernando Po*," Captain Tomas Torrens, with 13 individuals more of crew, leaves this port for Fernando Po, the cargo consisting of 585 pipes put up, and 50 in shooks, 1,000 small bars of lead, 500 cases liqueur, 5 cases Eau de Cologne, and 8 bales of cotton handkerchiefs. This document is signed by the Inspector of Health, the Captain of the Port, and the Secretary, and bears the seal of the Department; the other one is of Gibraltar, dated the 29th of June, 1855, certifying that the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" with thirteen men, exclusive of the master, arrived on the 23rd of June, in six days from Barcelona, and that good health was enjoyed in the city and garrison of Gibraltar.

No. 5.

An invoice and clearance that Don José Vidal y Ribas enters in the Spanish corvette "*Fernando Po*," loading for that place, on account and risk of whom it may concern:—

Twelve quintals of dried cod-fish, as ship's stores, at 80 reals, value 960 reals vellon; goods from abroad.

Barcelona, June 12, 1855.

No. 6.

Invoice and clearance of goods of the country, the same person enters in the same vessel, and for the same place, on account and risk of whom it may concern, to be delivered to Messrs. Vidal, Mustich and Co. :—

7 dozen chairs, value	..	..	..	280	reals vellon.
100 empty skins	..	..	..	1,000	" "
2 tables	..	..	..	60	" "
1 bath	..	..	..	200	" "
1 commode	..	..	..	800	" "
Total				2,340	

120 arobas at 25 lbs. each.

Barcelona, June 15, 1855.

No. 7.

Goods of the country.—Don José Vidal y Ribas enters in the same vessel, for the same place and consignees, invoice and clearance of—

				Reals vellon.
650 casks put up and in shooks, at 80 reals each	..	..	52,000	
500 cases, 12,000 bottles of liqueurs at 3 reals	..	..	36,000	
5 ditto, 1,200 ditto of Eau de Cologne at 2 reals	..	..	2,400	
2 bales, 800 pieces cotton handkerchiefs at 20 reals	..	..	16,000	
6 ditto, 542 ditto of printed cotton at 60 reals	..	..	32,520	
5 crates earthenware, value	..	..	300	

1,168 packages.

Total 139,120

Gross weight 2,500.

Barcelona, June 5, 1855.

No. 8.

Invoice and goods of a foreign country.—Don José Vidal y Ribas enters on board the same, going to the same place and on account and risk of whom it may concern :—

S. 59 bundles iron hoops, 32 quintals at 80 reals each, 2,560 reals vellon, coming from Liverpool in the Spanish goletta "Marinera," Captain Don Vincente Paz, and leaves the bonded warehouse as by Declaration 159 of the 8th instant.

Barcelona, May 26, 1855.

Cleared on the same day.

No. 9.

Invoice and goods of the country.—Don José Vidal y Ribas enters, on the 12th of June, 1855, on board the same vessel, captain, and destination, the following articles as ship's stores, namely :—

			Reals.	Reals vellon.
30 quintals biscuit at	..	..	100	3,000
20 ditto charcoal at	..	..	10	200
60 small jars oil at	..	..	20	1,200
16 arobas salt meat at	..	..	20	320
2 quintals salt pork at	..	..	40	80
6 hams at ..	..	..	20	120
4 arobas tunny-fish at	..	..	10	40
8 bushels French beans at	..	..	50	400
6 ditto Spanish ditto at	..	..	40	240
2 quintals lard at	..	..	100	200
24 arobas wine at ..	..	..	10	240
4 ditto vinegar at	..	..	6	24
24 bottles generous wine at	..	..	5	120
20 quintals potatoes at	..	..	10	200
16 ditto onions at ..	..	..	10	160
32 arobas rice at ..	..	..	20	640
10 ditto maccaroni at	..	..	20	200
60 strings garlick at	..	..	1	60
10 lbs. sausages at	..	..	5	50
3 dozen fowls at ..	..	..	60	180
12 arobas Indian corn at	..	..	10	120
3 bushels salt at ..	..	..	40	120
40 dozen eggs at ..	..	..	3	120
4 ditto preserves at	..	..	20	80
2 bushels Spanish nuts at	..	..	60	120
2 arobas olives at ..	..	..	10	20
1½ ditto composition candles at	..	..	20	35
4 ditto tallow at ..	..	..	10	40

Amounting altogether, as stated in the invoice, to 8,303 reals vellon; it ought to be 8,329.

Barcelona, June 12, 1855.

Nos. 5, 6, 8, and 9 are headad, Exportation to America, and No. 7, Invoice of Departure for America. Each bears an endorsement by the British Consul at Barcelona with the Consular seal, dated June 15, 1855, to the following effect, namely: I hereby certify that the present document is drawn out and attested in the form required by this Custom-house for all vessels clearing from this port upon foreign voyages.

(Signed) JAMES BAKER, *Consul*.

No. 10.

Certificate of the British Consul, stamped with the official seal of the Consulate, and signed James Baker, Consul, and dated, Barcelona, June 15, 1855, to the following effect, namely:—I hereby certify, at the request of Don José Vidal y Ribas, of Barcelona, merchant, of this city, that from the well-known respectability of the firm in Barcelona, and likewise from the fact of a previous voyage having been undertaken by the same party to the Coast of Guinea in March 1854, with similar object of engaging alone in legitimate trade, I have now reason to believe that the present voyage of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens, master, now bound for Fernando Po, may be looked upon as a *bond fide* and legitimate trading expedition.

No. 11

Is a bill of lading, unsigned, dated Barcelona, June 16, 1855, stating that Tomas Torrens, captain of the corvette "*Fernando Po*," about to undertake a voyage to Fernando Po, acknowledges to have received on board the said barque from J. Vidal y Ribas, for account and risk of whom it may concern, the goods as marked in margin in good condition; all which he promises to deliver, on arriving at the said port, to Messrs. Vidal, Mustiche, and Co., who on a faithful delivery have to satisfy him for the payment of the freight. To its accomplishment my person and goods are bound, according to the practice of commercial law, signing, of the same tenour and effect—

VMC, 1 to 6, 6 bundles of linen.
1 to 5, 5 cases of various goods.
12 to 13, 2 bundles ditto.
500 boxes liqueurs.
630 casks put up and in shooks.
7 dozen chairs.
1,000 bars lead.
4 packages of various articles.
30 small pipes.
8 crates earthenware.
11 packets of hoops for pipes.
12 hams.
4 quintals cod-fish.
Several pieces of furniture.

[No. 12

Is another bill of lading also unsigned, dated Gibraltar, June 30, 1855, in which Tomas Torrens, captain of the Spanish corvette named "*Fernando Po*," at anchor at that port, and about to undertake a voyage to Fernando Po, acknowledges to have received and to have as cargo from Don Francisco Tomas y Riera, 228 bales cotton cloth, 40 barrels flints, and bottles snuff, 6 crates earthenware, 394 bars iron, and 294 small iron hoops, to be delivered to Don Domingo Mustiche, who will satisfy him for the freight as agreed upon, signing two bills of lading of the same tenour and effect.

No. 13

Is a declaration made by Tomas Torrens, master of the Spanish corvette "*Fernando Po*," before William Recano, a public notary at Gibraltar, to the effect that the cargo on board his vessel consists of 178 bales of British cotton goods, 200 bundles hoop-irons, 394 iron bars, 6 crates of earthenware, 25 barrels and 16 cases of snuff; that the same have been shipped at Liverpool by Messrs. Stoess, Pictor, and Co., on board the British ship called "*Luna*," John Jones master, bound for Gibraltar; that they were transferred in the Bay of Gibraltar from that vessel on board a floating hulk, and were only transhipped *in transitu*, being really and *bond fide* destined for Fernando Po. This declaration is signed by Tomas Torrens, and attested by William Recano, notary public, Gibraltar, and stamped with his notarial seal. There is attached to this declaration a certificate, dated Gibraltar, June 30, 1855, signed by W. Campbell, Acting Registrar, Supreme Court, that the signature of William Recano affixed at the foot of the foregoing declaration is of the proper handwriting of the said William Recano, who is, as he styles himself, a notary public duly admitted and sworn, and practising in that city.

On the 22nd September twenty-two other documents were filed, having been found by the Marshal in the trunks of the master and officers of the vessel.

They consisted of matriculation papers of twelve of the crew; also those of the mate, Juan Amat, and the captain, Tomas Torrens, with the nominations of the two latter to be second pilots: the voyages of the captain and mate are marked thereon. On the master's matriculation paper it is endorsed that he was to make a voyage to Bonny and the Gulf of Guinea in 1854, dated at Barcelona, March 24, 1854. There is another endorsement, stating that he had returned from the former voyage, and departs for the Island of Fernando Po, taking an outward cargo in the corvette "*Fernando Po*." Signed, De la Rosa, Commandant of Marine. Barcelona, June 16, 1850.

The mate's is also endorsed to make a voyage to the Island of Fernando Po on board the corvette "*Fernando Po*." Signed, De la Rosa, same date. There is also a previous endorsement, stating that he had returned from his former voyage, which had been to Vera Cruz.

Two printed papers containing instruction for steam-boats, dated Barcelona, June 16, 1855; three accounts for pilotage, &c.

Also three certificates from Don Pedro Martir de Fortuny, Principal Writer of the Marine for Her Majesty in the Province of Barcelona, stamped with the Royal arms, and of the class called "Illustres." The first is security given by the master and owner for the proper use of the Royal passport; and the value of the vessel is put down at 6,000 dollars, half of which is to be forfeited if the requirements are not fulfilled, which are prohibitions against Slave or Contraband Trade. It is to the following effect, and dated March 27, 1855, namely:—Don Tomas Torrens, second pilot in the Matricula of Tarragona, captain of the corvette "*Fernando Po*," of the Matricula of Bilbea, of the burthen of 250 tons, value 6,000 dollars, ready in this port to proceed on her voyage. On a petition being presented to the Commandant of this Naval Department, soliciting for a Royal Patent of Navigation, his Honour has decreed what follows: Barcelona, March 24, 1855. Let it pass to the Notary of the Marine to give security. Signed, De la Rosa.

In consequence, the authorising party has expressed that he gave and has given ample guarantee in due form, to which he agrees. He in good faith swears to Her Majesty Queen Donna Isabella the Second, and for and in her name to the aforesaid Commandant of Marine, other Chiefs and Justices of the same service, which may be appointed, that he will make good use of the Royal patent which would be given him.

The second certificate is dated March 27, 1855, and is a contract between the master and owner, whereby the owner on his becoming the proprietor of the "*Fernando Po*," appoints Tomas Torrens to the command of the said vessel, which appointment Tomas Torrens accepts and promises faithfully to fulfil the articles required, giving to all an exact answer under obligation of his goods in possession and to possess. Witnessed by Don José Branlio Nicolan and Don Eugenio Estacen, residents in the same place; José Vidal y Ribas, Tomas Torrens, Pedro Martir de Fortuny, who wrote it.

The third certificate is dated June 14, 1855, and is an agreement between the captain and the crew of the barque "*Fernando Po*," at anchor in the port of Barcelona, and ready to put to sea for the Gulf of Guinea and some other parts of the coast of Africa, have agreed to the present contract. It states the second mate will get 20 dollars a-month, the cook 18, the sailors 16, and the boy 13, the page at the captain's discretion. The food is to be after the style of the Catalan navigation, and no wine or other liquors shall be given. No one is to have more than one month's advance before departure, and on arriving at her destination it shall be left for the captain to give what he shall consider necessary for their particular expenses, the balance to be paid at the end of the voyage. The mate is to take charge in case of the captain's death. The captain is bound on the arrival of the return voyage to present all the crew before the Marine authority, to treat all reasonably, and to avoid the desertion of any one of them. Both parties promised to fulfil this contract without violating it in any way, under the obligation of his goods. Witnesses to this agreement:—José Branlio Nicolan and Don Eugenio Estacen, residents in Barcelona. Signed—Tomas Torrens, Juan Amat, Antonio de Almeda, Beduando Perez, Vicente Caballero, Eliz Orasco. And for the remainder who could not write, he did so at their request—Pedro Martin de Fortuny, writer.

The log-book which was brought to the Registrar by the master, some time after the vessel was admitted into Court, has been extracted, from which it appears that the "*Fernando Po*" left Barcelona on the 17th June, 1855, arrived at Gibraltar on the 24th June following. No remark is made during her stay at that place; she left Gibraltar for the Gulf of Guinea on the 1st July, 1855, and arrived at Accra on the 30th following, and was declared in detention on the 3rd August; left Accra, after detention, on the 4th, for Sierra Leone. From the day they got sight of Sierra Leone until their arrival, the weather was foggy and rainy.

The owner's instructions to the master are as follow, namely:

"On your arrival at Gibraltar you will present yourself to M. Francisco y Riera, in order to receive from the floating stores, on showing the inclosed, the merchandize that is deposited in the stores of Gibraltar; also the same gentleman will give you a parcel of crockery, and for all you will sign the necessary bills of lading.

"You will proceed on the voyage to the coast-landing at Cape Coast, to receive and operate according to the instructions that should be left by M. Domingo Mustiche, which may be in Mr. Hutton's hands. If M. Mustiche's instructions prevent your landing at Accra, you will give there to M. Cæsar Cazene the small leather box and one package containing the charges made to M. Mustiche by the same gentleman, and M. Anselmo Anis Jambe, receiving from them his amount, say 108 dollars, as per invoice inclosed. In case you may not receive instructions from M. Mustiche at Cape Coast, you will proceed to Accra. If you will meet any English cruizers, in order to avoid difficulties you may exhibit the certificate given by the Consul, by which the legality of this voyage is proved, and the same you will always keep.

"Barcelona, June 16, 1855.

(Signed) "J. VIDAL Y RIBAS.

"The cargo and vessel being insured, you will take measures if any accidents happen."

The "*Fernando Po*" was detained on the 3rd of August last, in the roadstead of Accra, by Her Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and arrived in this harbour on the 2nd September following.

She was duly reported by the Acting Marshal.

The prize did not come into Court before the 11th September, the Spanish Judge being of opinion that there were not sufficient grounds for detention, and that the case should not be entertained. This matter was, however, settled by arbitration on the before-mentioned day, when the case was admitted; the petition for affidavit of seizure, and substituted declaration for captor's declaration, with letter from captors annexed, to be filed, for monition to issue, and for evidence to be produced, taken, and filed, was granted by the British and Spanish Judges, and the monition issued the same day.

The declaration of the prize-officer, Charles Foscarinus Tapril, second master of Her Majesty's steam gun-boat "*Minx*," accounting for the substituted declaration of the captors, is as follows, namely:

"I, Charles Foscarinus Tapril, second master of Her Britannic Majesty's steam gun-vessel '*Minx*,' Richard Henry Roe, Esquire, Lieutenant Commanding, and prize-officer of the Spanish barque '*Fernando Po*,' do hereby declare that, on the 3rd day of August last, being at anchor in the roadsteads of

Accra, the barque or vessel named the '*Fernando Po*,' also at anchor in the said roadstead of Accra, under Spanish colours, was detained by Edmund Webber, Esquire, Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's brigantine of war '*Dolphin*,' and Richard Henry Roe, Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's steam-gun-vessel '*Minx*,' and that the said barque is armed with no upper-deck guns, nor small arms, that could be seen; and that she was commanded by Tomas Torrens, who stated he came from Barcelona, last from the Rock of Gibraltar, and was bound to Fernando Po, with a crew consisting of 13 men, himself included, and a boy, in all 14 hands, whose names, taken from the list of her crew found amongst her papers, are inserted in a list at foot hereof; and having on board a quantity of merchandize, and also an extraordinary number of water-casks, stated to have been taken at those places.

"I do further declare that the letter hereunto annexed, dated Accra, 3rd August, 1855, addressed to the Honourable Robert Dougan, and signed by the said Edmund Webber, Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's brigantine of war '*Dolphin*,' and Richard Henry Roe, Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's steam gun-vessel '*Minx*,' the captors of the said barque or vessel, contains the causes and grounds which induced the said captors to seize and detain the said vessel. And I do further declare and verily believe that the said letter, although not exactly in the form prescribed, is intended by the captors for their declaration.

(Signed) "CHARLES FOSCARINUS TAPRIL,
"Second Master of Her Majesty's steam gun-vessel '*Minx*.'

"Sierra Leone, September 7, 1855."

Sir,

"*Dolphin*," Accra, August 3, 1855.

We beg to inform you that, having seized the Spanish vessel "*Fernando Po*" at this place, on suspicion of being fitted for the Slave Trade, we have sent her, in charge of Mr. Tapril, second master of the "*Minx*," to Sierra Leone, and request you will act as proctor in bringing her into Court for adjudication, or name some other gentleman to do so, in the event of your official position preventing your acting.

The cause of her detention is as follows: That, contrary to the 6th paragraph of the Xth Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, dated the 28th June, 1835, she has on board an extraordinary number of water-casks, for which the master has no certificate from the Custom-house at the place from which he cleared out, stating that a sufficient security had been given by the owners of the vessel that these casks shall only be used to hold palm-oil, or for other purpose of lawful traffic.

In addition to this direct violation of the Treaty, we have suspicion that her name either has been or is about to be changed, as she has various names in different parts of the ship, and there being in the hold a board with the name "*Josefita*" carved on it, such as is generally fastened to the stern of ships; her bell also bears the same name.

Six bunks are fitted on the upper deck.

The master produced, amongst other papers, a sealed packet addressed to the authorities of Fernando Po, and which he stated contained the certificate required, which document we of course refused to open; he therefore went before the Dutch Commandant at this place, and in his presence broke the seal, and showed to us the manifest of the ship, but not the certificate above alluded to, nor had he, in addition to these manifests, any certified copy of them for inspection.

We beg to call your attention to the papers contained in this packet being marked for America, not Africa. We are aware that it is customary for Portuguese vessels to have sealed manifests, but in their case the master is furnished with a properly authenticated copy; but we do not know of any regulation to that effect in Spanish ships.

In addition to the above, we have every reason to believe that his consignee, Don Domingo Mustiche, has formerly dealt extensively with slaves.

Inclosed is a list, with the documents received from the master, and which he declared to be all connected with the ship or cargo that he had in his possession.

We have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND WEBBER,
Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's steamer "*Dolphin*."
RICH. H. ROE,
Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's steamer "*Minx*."

The affidavit of seizure is to the following effect:—

Appeared personally Charles Foscarinus Tapril, second master of Her Majesty's steam gun-vessel "*Minx*," Richard Hentry Roe, Lieutenant Commanding, who is duly authorized and empowered, according to the provisions of the Treaty between His late Majesty King William IV, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Queen Regent of Spain during the minority of her daughter Donna Isabella the second Queen of Spain, for the abolition of the Slave Trade, signed at Madrid on the 28th day of June, 1835, to make seizures of vessels under Spanish colours engaged in and equipped for the Slave Trade, being duly sworn maketh oath, that on the 3rd day of August last, Her Majesty's said vessels of war being at anchor at the roadstead of Accra, the said Lieutenants Commanding Her Majesty's said vessels of war seized and detained the barque or vessel called "*Fernando Po*," whereof Tomas Torrens was master, she being at the same lying at anchor in the said roadsteads at Accra aforesaid under Spanish colours, by reason that the said barque or vessel had all the appearances on board of being equipped for the Slave Trade, contrary to the said Treaty entered into between His said late Majesty and the Queen of Spain aforesaid.

And deponent further saith that the reasons for the said Lieutenants Webber and Roe coming to the conclusion of the said vessels being engaged in the Slave Trade, contrary to the said Treaty, were from a report made to them by deponent, who had been sent on board the said vessel for the purpose of examining her.

And deponent further saith that on his boarding the said vessel, he proceeded to make a search of her, and found that she had a quantity of merchandize on board, and also an extraordinary number of leaguers for holding water in her hold, many of which were filled with water. There were also six sleeping-berths on deck, besides cabins below. That deponent could not search the whole of the hold thoroughly, in consequence of their being so much merchandize therein; but there were

two tiers of leaguers in the fore and after hold, and also leaguers in the fore-peak. And deponent also found a board in the hold marked "*Josefita*," and so was also the ship's bell.

And deponent further saith that the crew of the said vessel consisted of fourteen persons, the captain included, all of whom were Spanish.

And deponent further saith that, on his return to the said Lieutenants Webber and Roe, he communicated to them the result of his search, and of his suspicions that the said barque or vessel could not be engaged in legitimate traffic from the extraordinary quantity of water-casks she had on board, and also from other suspicious circumstances; when they themselves went on board the said vessel, and finding there was no certificate for the large quantity of leaguers and water-casks on board the said vessel, which is required by the Xth Article of the said Treaty, which Article states "that any British or Spanish vessel may lawfully be detained and sent or brought before the Mixed Court of Justice established in pursuance of the said Treaty for having an extraordinary number of water-casks on board, unless the master shall produce a certificate from the Custom-house at the place from which he cleared outwards, stating that a sufficient security had been given by the owners of such vessels that such extra quantity of casks should only be used to hold palm-oil, or for other purposes of lawful commerce," and that the captain could not furnish them with any satisfactory reason for there not being such a certificate, and the papers generally being unsatisfactory and of a suspicious character, the vessel being cleared for America, whereas she was found at Accra, and from other causes they seized and detained the said vessel, and placed deponent on board of her as prize officer with a prize crew of fourteen men, and ordered him to proceed with the said vessel to Sierra Leone for the purpose of her being brought into the Mixed Commission Court there for adjudication.

And deponent further saith that they left Accra on the 4th day of August last, bringing with them the master and crew of the said vessel, and arrived at Sierra Leone on the 2nd day of September instant.

And deponent further saith that they brought with them sufficient provisions for the use of prize crew, and that they did not interfere in any way with the provisions or cargo of the said barque or vessel, nor did they interfere the master or crew of the said vessel from the time of their leaving Accra until their arrival at Sierra Leone.

And deponent further saith that he received from the said Lieutenants Webber and Roe, the captors of the said vessel or barque, the letter addressed to the Honourable Robert Dougan, under date Accra, third August, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, which is attached to the declaration made by deponent as a substituted declaration for the captor's declaration, and which said declaration of deponent, together with the said letter, precedes this affidavit, and which said letter deponent verily believes, although not in the prescribed form, was intended by the captors for their declaration.

And deponent further saith that the paper, writings, and documents now produced, marked from Nos. 1 to 10 inclusive, and also three documents not marked by the captors, but two of which were, previously to their being produced to them, numbered Nos. 166 and 1,560, and the other a stamped sheet of paper with a black diagonal cross, were given to deponent by the said Lieutenant Webber, who, together with Lieutenant Roe, received them from the master of the said barque or vessel, and the Dutch Commandant at Accra, as by a list of the said papers, showing the manner in which they were given or delivered up to the said captors, duly signed by the said captors, hereunto annexed, and marked (A), will appear, and by which list it will be seen that the said last three before-mentioned documents were not shown or given up to the captors until after the said vessel had been seized, and that the said papers so given up by the said captors, and by them given to deponent, are now brought and delivered up in the same plight and condition as when so received by the said captors and deponent, without any fraud, addition, subduction, alteration, or embezzlement whatever, save the numbering and marking thereof.

The witnesses produced by the captors were the master, chief mate and second pilot, boatswain and second mate, cook, second cook, and the steward, who were examined by the Registrar on the standing and standing special interrogatories, on the 12th and 13th September. The master, Tomas Torrens, having been duly sworn, deposed as follows:—

"That he was born at Tarragona in Catalonia, and has always resided there; he is a Spanish subject, and has never been a subject of any other State; he is not married. Witness was on shore at Dutch Accra at the time of the seizure of his vessel, but after detention he was sent for by his mate. He does not know why the vessel was detained. She sailed under Spanish colours, and had besides six or seven signal flags. The name of the vessel is "*Fernando Po*," about twenty years ago, she was called "*Amanda*," she subsequently bore the name of "*Josefita*," and on her being purchased by her present owners, she was named "*Fernando Po*." She is 250 tons burthen. There were thirteen officers and mariners on board, exclusive of witness. They are all Spanish except one mariner, whose nationality he does not know. They were hired and shipped at Barcelona about three months ago by witness. Neither he nor any of the officers or mariners had any interest in the vessel; but witness had a few articles to dispose of, on the coast, for his own benefit. Was master on board. There were no passengers. The present voyage began at Barcelona and was to end at Fernando Po; Gibraltar was the last clearing port; thence the vessel proceeded to Fernando Po, but touched at Accra to obtain information respecting the palm-oil trade. Witness landed at Dutch Accra, and submitted two of the papers of his ship (the muster-roll and bill of health) to the inspection of the Commandant of that place, and while he was on shore the vessel was detained. The capturing vessels were seen at anchor off Accra on the 1st August last, and about a quarter of an hour after the detained vessel had anchored in the same roadstead, she was visited by an officer from one of the capturing vessels. The following day she was detained. The course of the vessel was always directed to the places named in the ship's papers. The vessel did not sail beyond or wide of the place to which she was destined by her papers. There are no guns mounted on board, but there are about six muskets and five swords. She was so armed to defend herself. No resistance was made at the time of capture. Had no instructions or directions to resist or escape from capture; or for destroying, concealing, or refusing to deliver up any of the ship's papers. Don José Vidal y Ribas of Barcelona is the owner of the detained vessel. Witness was present when she was purchased by him. He is a Spaniard, and lives at Barcelona with his family. There was a bill of sale made about seven months ago in Barcelona for the said vessel. It was left in the custody of the owner. Witness cannot exactly state the amount paid for her, but is certain she was paid for, at the time and place above mentioned. Believes that the sale was truly made, and not for the purpose of covering or

concealing the property. Believes that if the vessel be restored she will belong to Don José Vidal y Ribas, and to no other person. There is no agreement for the return of the vessel to her former owners. The merchandise on board belongs to Don José Vidal y Ribas; he is a Spaniard, and carries on business at Barcelona. The whole of the cargo was under the charge of witness, who had orders from the owner to dispose of the same for palm oil, ivory, and any produce he could procure from the coast. Witness was directed by the owner to advise with Don Mustich, who resides at Ajudá, and carries on lawful business on that part of the coast, in respect to the trade of the vessel. Don Mustich had no interest in the vessel or cargo, except some household furniture which witness believes was for him. The cargo was shipped on account, risk, and benefit of the before-named Don José Vidal y Ribas, and if it is restored will belong to him only. Witness does not know the lading of the vessel on her last voyage. The present cargo consists of cases of liqueurs, iron bars and hoops, empty casks (some in shooks), bales of cotton, household furniture, cases of eau de Cologne, and small barrels of snuff, which was to be exchanged for palm oil and other African produce. The detained vessel was brought direct to Sierra Leone after capture. All the papers found on board are entirely true and fair. He does not know anything to affect their credit. None of the papers which were on board at the time she took her departure from the last clearing port, and previous to capture, have been burnt, torn, thrown overboard, destroyed, or concealed. There are no papers relating to the vessel and cargo in any other country, to witness' knowledge. There was no charter-party signed for the present voyage. Both the vessel and cargo were insured at Barcelona for the present voyage; witness was so informed by the owner. He does not know the premium paid for such insurance. The detained vessel was under the entire control and management of witness, with respect to her employment in trade. Witness was to correspond with the owner at Barcelona on the concerns of the vessel and cargo. Bulk was not broken before capture, but the captors did so after detention of the vessel to search her. No slave or slaves have been received on board the vessel during the present voyage. That no stores, sails, or any articles were taken out of the detained vessel at the time of capture, but the cargo has sustained some injury by being turned over by the captors for the purpose of searching her. No stores, sails, or any other articles have been removed from her since her arrival in this port. The vessel was boarded and searched by the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships "Dolphin" and "Minx." He has not been ill-used since detention. The hatches of the vessel are not fitted with open gratings. He does not know whether the combings of the hatchways are bored, or otherwise fitted to receive iron bolts or bars, never having examined them. There are flat iron bars on board, which form part of the cargo of the vessel. There are the divisions of the cabin, the hold and the fore-castle, and three sleeping berths on deck, which were used by witness, the mate, and boatswain. There are no spare planks on board. There is no part of a slave-deck laid. There are no shackles, bolts, or handcuffs on board. There are 12 or 13 water-casks on board for the crew, besides 650 casks (some in shooks) which form a part of the cargo. Witness is unable to say what quantity of water the 13 casks can hold. The 650 casks were to hold palm oil, and they contain on an average about 120 gallons each; 400 of these casks were to be taken by the detained vessel, and the remainder reserved for a schooner belonging to the same owner. There are no tanks on board. There are only three or four mess kits for the use of the crew. There are no copper or iron boilers on board. There were 2 bushels of rice, $1\frac{1}{2}$ barrel of flour, half a bushel of corn, about 10 cwt. of bread, and 2 cwt. of codfish, for the use of the crew; and 30 barrels of bread, 4 cwt. of codfish, and 12 hams, for cargo."

The evidence of the mate, Juan Amat, after being duly sworn, was to the following effect:

"That the name of the master of the detained barque is Tomas Torrens. Has known him from childhood. He was born at Tarragona, in Catalonia, where he, the master, has always resided to witness' knowledge. He is not married. Don José Vidal y Ribas appointed the master to the command of the vessel. He resides at Barcelona. The master took possession of her at Barcelona in March or April last. Has known the vessel since he shipped in her. Witness first saw the detained vessel about the 15th or 16th June last. She was built in Barcelona. He was present at the detention of the vessel. He does not know the reason why she was seized. She sailed under Spanish colours, and had no others except a few signal flags. The name of the detained vessel is '*Fernando Po*;' she has borne that name since she has become the property of José Vidal y Ribas. He does not know whether she has been called by any other name. He does not know her tonnage. There were thirteen officers and mariners, exclusive of the master. They are all Spaniards, and were hired and shipped in the middle of June last by the master at Barcelona. Witness had no interest in the vessel or cargo; cannot say whether any of the officers or mariners had. He was mate of the vessel. There were no passengers. The present voyage began at Barcelona, but does not know where it was to have ended. The last clearing port was Gibraltar; thence the vessel proceeded direct to Accra, where the captain went on shore. The capturing ships were seen at anchor off Accra on or about the 31st July or 1st August last, when she was visited by an English officer from one of the men-of-war, and on the following day the vessel was detained while she was at anchor in the roadstead of Accra. The captain was on shore at the time of seizure. There are no guns mounted on board, but there are a few muskets, and ammunition, for the defence of the vessel. There was no resistance made at the time of capture. Had no instructions to resist capture, or for destroying, concealing, or refusing to deliver up any of the ship's papers. Don José Vidal y Ribas is the owner of the detained vessel; he knows it, because he was told so by the said owner. He thinks he is a Spaniard, and resides and carries on business at Barcelona. He does not whether he is married. He does not know whether there was any bill of sale made to the owner of the vessel, nor does he know the sum paid for her. He is ignorant as to whether there exists any agreement for the return of the vessel to her former owners. Witness believes the owner of the vessel is also owner of the merchandize on board. The said owner always resides at Barcelona. No other person or persons have any interest in the said merchandize to witness' knowledge, and if it be restored it will belong to the aforesaid owner, José Vidal y Ribas. Does not know the lading of the vessel on her last voyage. The present cargo consists of bales of cotton, empty casks, household furniture, and some other things, which the witness cannot remember. All the papers found on board the detained vessel are true and fair. He does not know anything to affect their credit. None of the papers have been concealed or destroyed. There are no papers relative to the detained vessel in any country to his knowledge. He does not know whether there was a charter-party signed for the present voyage. He is ignorant as to whether the vessel and her merchandize are insured. Bulk was not broken before capture, but subsequently the captors overhauled part of the cargo in searching the vessel. No slave or slaves have been put on board for the

purpose of the Traffic in Slaves during the present voyage. No stores, or sails, or any other articles whatever, were taken out of the detained vessel at the time of capture. No stores or sails have been removed from her since her arrival in Sierra Leone. He does not know the rank of the officer who conducted the search. He cannot say that he has been well treated. Witness being in command of the vessel during the master's absence on shore, he was put in close confinement at the time of capture, with a guard of armed marines over him, and treated like a pirate, although he offered no resistance whatever to the captors; this ill-treatment witness experienced at Accra previous to the vessel leaving for this port. He was not ill-used during the voyage to this colony. The hatches of the vessel are not fitted with open gratings. The combings of the hatchways are not bored, nor are there any iron bars on board to fit them. There are the divisions of the cabin, hold, and fore-castle, besides three sleeping berths on deck, for the use of the officers of the ship. There are no spare planks on board. There is no part of a slave-deck laid. There are no shackles, bolts, or handcuffs on board. Witness thinks there are twelve or thirteen water-casks for the use of the crew. There are water-casks which form the cargo of the ship. He cannot tell their number nor contents. These casks were designed to contain palm oil. There are a few mess tins on board for the use of the crew. There are no copper or iron boilers on board. There are some provisions on board, but witness cannot state their quantity. They were for the use of the crew."

The evidence of the boatswain, the two cooks, and the steward, coincided with the statements of the master and mate.

Publication of the foregoing evidence was prayed for on the 14th, as well as a Commission of survey and inspection to be issued by the captor's proctor, which were granted.

On the 18th, three days further time were granted to the captor's proctor to prosecute the case of the seizors, in consequence of ill-health, and also a petition for a portion of the cargo to be landed, so as to enable the Commissioners to complete their survey and inspection.

On the 19th, the monition having expired, it was returned into Court by the Acting Marshal as having been duly served.

On the same day a claim was filed by the master on behalf of the owner of the said vessel, which claim and affidavit in support thereof are hereunder transcribed:—

The claim of the said Tomas Torrens, the master of the said barque "*Fernando Po*," a subject of Her Catholic Majesty the Queen of Spain, for the said barque, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandize, captured by Her Britannic Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and brought to Sierra Leone, and for the value of the said barque, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and her cargo, as the property of Don José Vidal y Ribas, of Barcelona, in Spain, together with certain articles of furniture, part of the said cargo, the property of Don Domingo Mustich, Governor of Fernando Po, subject of Her said Catholic Majesty, and for his this claimant's private venture, consisting of a few hats and caps, water-jars, and a few dozen shirts, and as protected by the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain, dated respectively the twenty-third day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, and the twenty-eighth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, and for all costs, charges, losses, damages, demurrage, and expenses, as have arisen, or shall or may arise, by reason or means of the capture and detention of the said barque and her cargo as aforesaid.

Appeared personally the said Tomas Torrens, the master of the said barque, and maketh oath, that he is a subject of Her Catholic Majesty the Queen of Spain, and was master of the said barque at the time of the capture thereof by Her Britannic Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and that the said barque was so captured on the first day of August last past, while lying at anchor off the town of Dutch Accra, on the coast of Africa, with a cargo consisting of general merchandize, and brought to Sierra Leone. And this deponent further maketh oath that Don José Vidal y Ribas, of Barcelona, in Spain, a subject of Her said Catholic Majesty, was, at the time of the said capture, and now is, the true, lawful, and sole owner and proprietor of the said barque "*Fernando Po*," her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and of the said cargo, with the exception of certain articles of household furniture, part of the said cargo, the property of Don Domingo Mustich, Governor of Fernando Po, and of the private adventure of this deponent, consisting of a few hats and caps, water-mugs, and a few dozen shirts, on board the said vessel. That this deponent verily believes that the said barque and cargo are protected by the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain, dated respectively the twenty-third day of September, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, and the twenty-eighth day of June, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five. And this deponent further saith, that he sailed in the said barque "*Fernando Po*," from Barcelona aforesaid, as master of the said barque on the seventeenth day of June last past, bound for the Island of Fernando Po. That the said vessel touched at Gibraltar on her voyage out, for the purpose of taking in a portion of her cargo for Fernando Po. That the said barque remained at Gibraltar about nine days, and proceeded on her voyage. That previously to the departure of this deponent from Barcelona, he received instructions from the said Don José Vidal y Ribas, the owner of the said barque, to call in at Cape Coast Castle, or at Dutch Accra, for the purpose of obtaining information as to the state of the trade in palm-oil and African produce generally. That when the said vessel was off Sierra Leone aforesaid, severe and hazy weather set in, which lasted about nine or ten days, by reason of which this deponent could not obtain any nautical observation until within three days of his making the land of Accra, when he was enabled so to do. That the current was very strong and adverse, and that upon his taking the said observation, he found that the said barque was considerably to the leeward of Accra. That on the thirty-first day of July last past, about twelve o'clock at noon, this deponent sighted land, which he believed to be Accra, and immediately bore up and stood in for the said land. That upon so doing, he discovered two vessels lying at anchor off the said town of Accra, both of which he discovered to be vessels of war. That the said barque "*Fernando Po*" was brought to anchor off the said town of Accra about four o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, near to the said vessels of war, "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*." That the said barque "*Fernando Po*" was lying at anchor distant from the "*Minx*" about one hundred yards. That upon bringing the said vessel to anchor, a boat left the "*Minx*," and came alongside the "*Fernando Po*," with an individual apparently in charge of the said boat, whom this deponent regarded as a midshipman. That this person came on board the "*Fernando Po*," and made certain inquiries of this deponent concerning her cargo, and the port from whence she came, and entered the replies to the said questions in a book which he then had with him, and thereupon left the vessel.

That upon the first day of August, about eight o'clock in the morning, this deponent went on shore at Accra, in pursuance of his instructions, received from the said Don José Vidal y Ribas, in Barcelona, for the purpose of obtaining information in regard to the state of the trade in palm-oil and other African produce, and left the said barque "*Fernando Po*" in charge of the mate of the said vessel, one Juan Amat. That this deponent returned on board the said "*Fernando Po*" about eleven o'clock the next morning, the second day of August, and on his arrival on board found about eight or nine strange men with muskets on the deck of the said "*Fernando Po*," and also two or three individuals who appeared to be officers of Her Britannic Majesty's Navy, but who said nothing to this deponent. That the hatches of the said vessel were opened, the deck quite covered with portions of the cargo, and many articles of household furniture, part of the said cargo, were broken and otherwise injured. That three boxes of liqueurs, also part of the said cargo, were open, and the bottles removed therefrom, a great many of which this deponent found empty on the deck. That this deponent applied to the said Juan Amat, as mate in charge of the said "*Fernando Po*" during his absence, for an explanation in regard to the state of the said vessel, and was informed by him that soon after this deponent had left the said "*Fernando Po*," on the morning of the first of August, about eight o'clock, a boat left the "*Minx*" and came alongside the "*Fernando Po*." That the said boat was in charge of a person whom the said Juan Amat supposed to be an officer of the said "*Minx*," and that there were about eight or nine men in the said boat. That the said officer came on board the "*Fernando Po*," and directed the steward of the said vessel, one Henrique Cera, to inform him, the said Juan Amat, that he, the said officer, had come on board for the purpose of ascertaining and inspecting the cargo of the said "*Fernando Po*." That he, the said Juan Amat, directed the said Henrique Cera to inform the said officer that the master of the said vessel was on shore, and that unless the said officer could produce his commission or warrant from the Commandant of the vessel of war to which he the said officer was attached, he the said Juan Amat would not allow him to inspect the cargo of the said vessel. That the said Henrique Cera gave the reply of him the said Juan Amat to the said officer, and that thereupon the crew of the said boat, under the direction and in consequence of the order of the said officer, proceeded to lift off the aft hatches of the said "*Fernando Po*," and several of the said crew went down into the hold of the vessel, and began to bring up portions of the cargo on deck. That in bringing the said portions of the cargo on deck, several articles constituting part of the said cargo were broken and otherwise injured by the improper conduct of the said crew.

And this deponent further saith that soon after his arrival on board the said barque "*Fernando Po*," two boats left the said vessels of war "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and came alongside the "*Fernando Po*," in which boats were the Commandants of the two said vessels "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*" respectively, who came on board the said "*Fernando Po*." That the Commandant of the "*Dolphin*" addressed himself to this deponent, and this deponent supposed that he inquired for the papers of the said "*Fernando Po*." That thereupon this deponent produced the ship's papers that were open to the said Commandants respectively, who looked at them for a very short time. That this deponent was then informed by one of the crew of the boats belonging to one of the said vessels of war, who spoke Spanish, that the Commandants declared the papers to be bad and worth nothing, and that this deponent had not produced one particular and necessary document. That they the said Commandants required a certificate from the British Consul at Barcelona, accounting for the quantity of empty casks on board the said barque "*Fernando Po*."

And this deponent further saith, that he thereupon presented to the said Commandants a sealed envelope, sealed with the seal of the Customs Department at Barcelona, and directed the steward of the said barque to inform the Commandants that probably they would find the document they required inclosed in the said envelope. That the Commandant of the said "*Dolphin*" informed this deponent that this deponent must go on shore to the town that day, to the house of a gentleman who could speak very good Spanish, and that they would meet this deponent there. That the said Commandants then went below, and commenced searching and examining the said "*Fernando Po*." That the said Commandants subsequently left the said vessel, and this deponent immediately left also, and started to the town, where he proceeded, in company with one Cesare Carrana, to the house of the gentleman, in which house this deponent found the Commandant of the "*Dolphin*." That the gentleman to whose house this deponent proceeded informed this deponent that the said Commandant required the production of a document accounting for the number of empty casks on board the said vessel "*Fernando Po*." That this deponent gave the same reply in reference to the demand as he did when it was put to him on board the "*Fernando Po*," and stated further that this deponent would be liable to a penalty imposed by the laws of Spain, if he should break the seal of the envelope in question, but that if carried before the proper authorities, the envelope might be opened. That thereupon the said Commandant, Cesare Carrana, and two more individuals, together with this deponent, proceeded to the residence of T. M. Nageglas, the officer administering the government at Accra. That the said officer directed this deponent to open the said envelope, and that thereupon this deponent opened the said envelope, and delivered the inclosed papers to the said Commandant, and inquired of him whether he was satisfied, to which he replied that he was not satisfied; that the papers were not worth anything, and that the said "*Fernando Po*" would be sent to Sierra Leone to be tried in the Courts of Mixed Commission. That upon hearing the determination of the said Commandant, this deponent forthwith noted a protest before the said T. M. Nageglas against the illegal detention of the said barque "*Fernando Po*," by Her Britannic Majesty's ships of war "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*" respectively. That this deponent returned on board the "*Fernando Po*" on the third day of August, and found the said vessel in charge of one of the officers of the "*Minx*." That this deponent has been informed, since his arrival in this port, that the said officer is named Charles Foscarinus Tapril, and that he holds the rank of second master on board the said "*Minx*." That on the afternoon of the said 3rd day of August, the said Commandants again came on board the "*Fernando Po*," and the Commandant of the "*Dolphin*" directed this deponent to deliver up to him all the papers belonging to the said barque, which this deponent accordingly did, and the said Commandants thereupon left. That on the 4th day of August, about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, the Commandant of the "*Dolphin*" came on board the said "*Fernando Po*," and intimated to this deponent that the said vessel was in charge of the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril, who would carry her to Sierra Leone, and that this deponent must not attempt to interfere in the management of the said barque. That the said "*Fernando Po*" was got under weigh by the crew put on board of her by the said vessels of war, under the command of the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril, on the said 4th day of August, and arrived in this port on the 2nd day of this present month of September. And this deponent

further saith, that at no time during the search of the said "*Fernando Po*" by the Commandants of the said vessels of war "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*" respectively, did they, nor did either of them, deliver to this deponent, as the master of the said "*Fernando Po*," any document showing that they were duly authorized to search the said vessel, neither did they, nor did either of them, during the said search, deliver to this deponent, as master aforesaid, a certificate signed by them or either of them, stating their respective ranks in the naval service, nor any certificate of the name of the vessel which they, or either of them commanded, nor any certificate declaring that the object of their said search was to ascertain whether the said barque "*Fernando Po*" was employed in the Slave Traffic, or fitted up for the said Traffic.

And this deponent further saith, that he demanded from the said Commandants, previously to their searching the "*Fernando Po*," the production of the documents by which they were empowered to search the said vessel. That the said Commandants replied that they were not bound to show him any document.

And this deponent further saith, that the said Amat has informed him that at no time during the search of the said "*Fernando Po*" by the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril, on the first day of August, nor since, did the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril deliver to the said Juan Amat, as mate in command of the said "*Fernando Po*," a copy of the special orders signed by the Commandant of the said "*Minx*," provided for and supplied to ships of Her Britannic Majesty's Royal Navy, authorized expressly to detain and search vessels suspected, upon reasonable grounds, of being engaged in the Traffic of Slaves, or of having been fitted out for that purpose, in pursuance of the stipulations of the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain, before mentioned, and that no certificate was ever delivered by the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril to the said mate, signed by the Commandant of the said "*Minx*," stating his rank in the Royal Navy, the name of the Commandant of the cruiser by whose orders he proceeded to make the search, and that of the cruiser in which he sailed, and the object of the search.

And this deponent further saith, that previously to his departure from Barcelona, this deponent obtained from the British Consul at that port a certificate declaring that the certificate of the Customs Department of Barcelona had been delivered in the form used in the Port of Barcelona.

And this deponent further saith, that upon the manifest of the said "*Fernando Po*," attested at the Customs in Barcelona, appears the entry of six hundred and fifty casks, and that the necessary certificate required from the Customs in Barcelona has, by the due execution of the said manifest, according to the laws of Spain, been delivered in conformity with the form used in the Port of Barcelona.

And this deponent further saith, that the said casks were put on board the said "*Fernando Po*" for the purpose of containing palm oil, and for no other purpose whatsoever. That the said vessel was, at the time of her departure from Barcelona, intended to be employed solely in legal commerce, and was so employed at the time of her illegal capture by Her Britannic Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and has at no time, to the knowledge of this deponent, been employed in any other than legal trade, nor ever intended so to be, to the knowledge of this deponent.

And this deponent further saith, that no person or persons, other than the persons before mentioned, have any right, title, or interest in the said ship or barque, her tackle, apparel and furniture, goods, wares, and merchandize on board the said vessel at the time of her seizure and capture, and that he is duly authorized to make the claim hereunto annexed, and that the same is a true and just claim, and that he shall be able to make due proof and specification thereof.

On the 22nd the captor's proctor was allowed to put certain special interrogatories to the master of the "*Fernando Po*," who deposed that witness first visited the coast of Africa in June last year in a Spanish schooner called "*Mariana*," of which he was first mate. The said schooner touched at Accra, Whydah, and Popoe, and took in gum copal at the former place, and palm oil at the latter places. The schooner was commanded by one Joaquim Roig, Spanish subjects; he remained three months on the coast, and returned with African produce to Barcelona, where the voyage commenced and ended. That he thinks the detained vessel was called "*Josefita*" about six or seven months ago. She has borne her present name since that period. Witness was placed in command of her at Barcelona as soon as her present owner purchased her, and he was three months in fitting her out for sea. That Don José Vidal y Ribas is the sole and individual owner of the detained vessel. He does not know any person directly or indirectly interested in her. He is ignorant of the name or names of the parties who previously owned the "*Fernando Po*." That there were twelve or thirteen casks of different sizes of water on board when the vessel sailed from Gibraltar. Witness cannot state what quantity of water those casks are capable of holding, nor what was on board at the time of capture. That he only shipped one cook for the voyage, but on finding that he was incapable of performing his duty he sent him forward, and placed one of the sailors in his room. That he did not ship two cooks, one being sufficient for all the requirements of his vessel. That the casks on board, when put up, would be sufficiently strong to hold palm oil, for which purpose they were intended. That "*Mariana*" is the name of the schooner which was to receive two hundred and fifty of the casks of the "*Fernando Po*" (not four hundred, as stated in the interrogatory). It is the same vessel in which witness visited the coast last year. That the said schooner "*Mariana*" left Barcelona for Havana about one month and a-half or two months prior to the "*Fernando Po*'s" leaving the former port. From Havana she was to come to the coast of Africa to meet witness. That Joaquim Roig is the name of the master of the "*Mariana*." The said Roig is at present in the colony, having come up by the last mail.

On the 23rd a petition from the claimant's proctor, stating his inability to complete the evidence for claimant by the following day, when his time would expire, owing to his temporary indisposition, and the difficulty of obtaining at all times the services of the interpreter, and requesting further time to the 4th October, was granted.

The Surveyor's report, a commission for which was issued on the 14th September, was only sent in on the 4th October, in consequence of the landing of part of the cargo of the said vessel, which occupied some days.

They state to the following effect:—

"We found main and after hatchways, with close hatches, with fore-castle and cabin-openings, usual in merchant-vessels; the main hatchway being 5 feet 9 inches in length by 4 feet 8 inches in width; and the after hatchway 4 feet in length by 2 feet 9 inches in width. We found fore and cabin bulk-heads, usual in merchant-vessels. We found no spare plank of any description. The

vessel has a tier of beams fore and aft; but these were placed in the original construction of the ship and are common in many vessels of her size, and in larger vessels are usual. We found no shackles, bolts, or handcuffs. We found three casks in the after part of the main hold, and two in the run under the cabin floor, mostly full of fresh water, and capable of containing about 470 gallons of fresh water, old measure, and of a similar description of casks (pipes). We found five on deck empty, capable of containing about 687 gallons, old measure, of water, with a scuttle-butt on deck, capable of holding about 100 gallons of water, old measure; together eleven casks. These had all apparently been used as water-casks for some time, and we found twenty-six new large casks in the hold, and twenty-four upon deck, averaging about 260 gallons each, capable of containing about 13,000 gallons old measure; and altogether vessels capable of containing 14,257 gallons of water, old measure—a quantity much more than necessary for the use of the crew as a merchant-vessel. We found four mess-tins and twelve porringers, not more than sufficient for the use of crew. We found a usual description of ship's cooking-stove, with a few small saucepans and kettles, not more than sufficient for the use of the crew. We found four bags of rice, containing about 200 pounds each; three bags of peas, containing about one and a-half bushel each; three bags of calavances, containing about one and a-half bushel each; six jars of codfish, containing about 100 pounds each, and 230 stock-fish, a quantity not more than sufficient for the use of the crew.

"And on the 3rd of October we proceeded to the stores of John Epffenhausen, Esquire, where the part of the cargo landed from the said vessel to make room in the hold is lodged, and where we saw a number of barrels of a similar description, marked J. G. and G. J. B., and had two of them taken indiscriminately and opened, when we found they contained bottles of snuff. We also had a case which felt heavy, marked $\begin{smallmatrix} V & M \\ C & 5 \end{smallmatrix}$ opened, when we found it closely packed with small boxes, containing

apparently small bottles of some fluid. We also found twenty-four new casks (pipes), made up of staves exactly similar to those in the bundles of shooks in the cargo. Two of these casks taken indiscriminately we had opened and weighed, and found them to contain about 237 pounds each of biscuit. All the other casks appeared to be full of biscuit, but we did not open them, being fearful of injuring the bread. These taken together would give about 5,680 pounds of biscuit, a quantity much more than sufficient for the use of the crew of the vessel. The cargo consists, besides the above, of a large number of new shooks of casks, bales of goods, cases of merchandize, lead-bars, iron-bars, hoop-iron, cases of liqueur, and furniture."

Some further information being required by the Judges, the Surveyors added the following Appendix, dated 9th, to their Report of the 4th of October, 1855:—

"We have the honour to state, for the information of the Honourable the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice, in obedience to the request written on our Report of the 4th of October instant, and dated 5th October, that we this day proceeded on board the barque '*Fernando Po*,' and ascertained the number and capacity of the saucepans and kettles attached to the cooking-place of that vessel, having found no others on board, viz.:—One iron saucepan, capable of containing about two gallons; one ditto, half-a-gallon; one tin pot, one gallon; one ditto, one quart: one ditto, half-a-pint; one iron tea-kettle, three quarts; one tin ditto, two quarts.

"We then proceeded to the stores of John Epffenhausen, Esquire, where the goods landed from the '*Fernando Po*' are stored, where we opened, sufficient for examination, three bales, each having different marks, and three cases, each having different marks, and found as follows, viz.:—VR $\times$ 7, a bale containing Romalls; $\begin{smallmatrix} DMC \\ C \end{smallmatrix} \times 118$, white cotton cloths; $\begin{smallmatrix} DMC \\ C \end{smallmatrix} \times 185$, satin stripes; JCR $\times$ 6 on one side a case containing bottles of snuff, and GIB on another side of the same case; VR $\times$ 34, a case containing glazed kerchiefs packed in tin; VMC, no number, containing apparently a bath."

The petition of the claimant's proctor, dated 4th October, for four days' further time to put in evidence on behalf of the defence, assented to by the proctor on the other side, was granted; and on the 9th another petition, praying that affidavits, marked A, B, and C, might be received and filed, was also granted.

The affidavits above referred to are as follow:—

A.

Appeared personally Joaquim Roig, formerly of Barcelona, in Spain, but at present of this Colony, master mariner, who maketh oath and saith:—That he is master of the Spanish schooner "*Mariana*," belonging to one José Vidal y Ribas of Barcelona aforesaid, merchant; and that he sailed from Barcelona on the eleventh day of March last, bound for Havana, with a cargo of general merchandise, and arrived at that port on the second day of May last. That previously to this deponent's sailing from Barcelona on board the said schooner, he received orders from the said José Vidal y Ribas to take in a cargo of rum at Havana, and to proceed with the same to the Island of Fernando Po, or to any part of the coast of Africa at which this deponent might be able to dispose of the said cargo to the best advantage. That this deponent, before leaving Barcelona, was informed by the said José Vidal y Ribas that he would be sending the barque called "*Fernando Po*," the vessel at present under the adjudication of this Honourable Court, and which vessel is the property of the said José Vidal y Ribas, to the Island of Fernando Po with a general cargo on board, and that this deponent would in all probability meet the said barque at Fernando Po, upon this deponent's arrival there. That the cargo of the said "*Fernando Po*" was to be divided between this deponent and Tomas Torrens, the master of the said barque, for the purpose of being bartered or disposed of on any part of the coast for palm oil and African produce generally, for and on account of the said José Vidal y Ribas.

And this deponent further saith, that the said cargo of the said schooner "*Mariana*" was in like manner, and by the direction of the said José Vidal y Ribas, to be divided between the said Tomas Torrens and this deponent, to be bartered or otherwise disposed of on any part of the said coast, at which trade might be most advantageously effected. That the said José Vidal y Ribas informed this deponent that he would put on board the said "*Fernando Po*," when about to leave Barcelona, a sufficient number of casks for the purpose of containing the palm oil which the said Tomas Torrens might procure, and also for enabling this deponent to take about two or three hundred of the same for the palm oil which he might obtain. That the said vessels were to trade

along the coast for the purpose before mentioned, but that the "*Mariana*," being a smaller vessel, was principally to proceed to the several parts of the coast where trade might be brisk, and upon obtaining supplies of palm oil or other African produce, to laden the said barque, and dispatch her with her said cargo for Barcelona; and upon the said barque being laden, this deponent was then to take in palm oil and such other produce as he might obtain, and proceed also to Barcelona aforesaid.

And this deponent further saith, that when he was leaving Barcelona, he requested the said José Vidal y Ribas to put on board the said barque "*Fernando Po*" a supply of biscuit or navy bread sufficient for the two vessels, the "*Fernando Po*" and the said "*Mariana*;" and further informed the said José Vidal y Ribas that it might be as well to put in a few casks of the said biscuit for the purpose of trade, which the said José Vidal y Ribas consented to do.

And this deponent further saith that from the month of July to the month of September in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four, this deponent was master of the said "*Mariana*," which vessel was during those months at Whydah and Dutch Accra. That during that period, this deponent had together, at one time, about five or six hundred casks on board the said vessel, the said number, however, being made up of some shooks, as well as ready-made casks; and that he had a certificate from the British Consul at Barcelona exactly corresponding with that given to the said Tomas Torrens for the same, but no certificate of any other description. That during the time the said schooner was at the places before named, she was visited by an officer belonging to Her Britannic Majesty's ship "*Scourge*," which is the vessel of the Commodore on this station. That the said officer was informed by this deponent of the number of casks on board the said "*Mariana*."

And this deponent further saith, that he then had on board the said schooner a large quantity of rice, amounting to about thirty barrels. That the said officer desired the said barrels to be opened, which was accordingly done, and the said officer inquired what this deponent required with such a large quantity of rice, to which question this deponent replied that it was for trade as well as for the use of the crew; whereupon the said officer left the said schooner unmolested. That about a month afterwards the said schooner, when lying at anchor off Whydah, was visited by an officer of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "*Ferret*," who likewise was informed by this deponent of the said number of casks on board, and who demanded an inspection of the schooner's papers. That thereupon this deponent produced the same, and that the officer examined and returned them, apparently satisfied therewith. That the said papers were also produced to the officer belonging to the Commodore's vessel aforesaid, who likewise seemed satisfied with the same.

And this deponent further saith, that he has inspected the papers belonging to the said barque "*Fernando Po*," deposited in this Honourable Court, and that the said papers are perfectly correct and in due form, and that the papers which this deponent produced to the officers before named were by no means as perfect as those with which the "*Fernando Po*" is provided.

And this deponent further saith, that on his aforesaid voyage from Havana to the Island of Fernando Po, he called in at Dutch Accra, on the twenty-second day of August last, for the purpose of ascertaining whether palm oil, and such other produce as this deponent was instructed by the said José Vidal y Ribas to endeavour to procure in exchange for the said cargo of rum and of the merchandise on board the said barque "*Fernando Po*," could be obtained upon advantageous terms. That upon his arrival at Accra aforesaid, he was informed that the said barque "*Fernando Po*" had been captured by Her Britannic Majesty's vessels of war "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and sent up to Sierra Leone to be tried in the Mixed Commission Court. That thereupon this deponent determined to come up to Sierra Leone by the first opportunity, and accordingly took passage in the African mail-steamer "*Retriever*," and arrived in this port on the eighteenth day of September last, where he met the said Tomas Torrens.

And this deponent lastly saith, that from the arrangement made between himself and the said José Vidal y Ribas previously to this deponent's departure from Barcelona in regard to the trade in palm oil and other African produce before mentioned, it could not have been intended that the said vessel was in any way to have been engaged in any other trade, and more particularly not in the Slave Trade.

B.

Appeared personally Tomas Torrens, master of the barque "*Fernando Po*," who maketh oath and saith: That previously to this deponent's departure from Barcelona, mentioned in the affidavit of this deponent, annexed to and filed with the claim of this deponent in this Honourable Court, this deponent was informed by José Vidal y Ribas, the person stated to be owner of the said barque in the affidavit before mentioned, that the cargo on board the said barque was, upon the arrival of the said vessel at the Island of Fernando Po, to be divided between this deponent and Joaquim Roig, master of the Spanish schooner "*Mariana*," should the said Joaquim Roig require a portion thereof (which vessel is the property of the said José Vidal y Ribas), to be bartered on the coast of Africa for palm-oil and other African produce; and that this deponent was to receive a portion of the cargo of the said schooner "*Mariana*," which the said José Vidal y Ribas stated would consist of rum. That the cargo of both the said vessels "*Mariana*" and "*Fernando Po*" was to be bartered by the said Joaquim Roig and this deponent for African produce, for and on account of the said José Vidal y Ribas.

And this deponent further saith that the said casks mentioned in the affidavit hereinbefore referred to were to be divided between this deponent and the said Joaquim Roig, for the purpose of containing the palm-oil which might be obtained by the barter of the cargoes of the said vessels.

And this deponent further saith that, upon leaving Barcelona, the said José Vidal y Ribas put on board the said barque "*Fernando Po*" a large quantity of navy bread or biscuit, part of which was for the use of the crew of the said "*Fernando Po*" and part for the said schooner "*Mariana*," and a portion for the purpose of trade.

And this deponent further saith that the quantity of water which this deponent put on board the said barque was by no means more than required for the use of the crew of the said barque; and that it was advisable for the said vessel, as it was likely she might have been for some length of time about the coast, to be provided with a large quantity of water, inasmuch as the water to be procured about those places at which the said barque would, in all probability, have been for some time, is very bad and unwholesome.

And this deponent further saith that the said barque "*Fernando Po*" was not cleared for America, as asserted in the affidavit of Charles Foscarinus Tapril, but for the Island of Fernando Po, and that the documents headed America are usually so headed, but that in the body of the said documents it is expressly declared that the said vessel had cleared for, and was bound to, the Island of Fernando Po.

And that this deponent further saith that he has been informed, and verily believes, that the said barque "*Fernando Po*" was, previously to her being purchased by the said José Vidal y Ribas, called the "*Josefita*," and that the board which has the name "*Josefita*" marked upon it, and which is referred to by the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril, was formerly affixed to the side of the said "*Fernando Po*," when she was called the "*Josefita*," and that this deponent was informed of this by the said José Vidal y Ribas.

And this deponent further saith that, previously to his departure from Barcelona, he, together with the said José Vidal y Ribas, gave bond or security with the Marine Notary at Barcelona, by depositing at the Marine Office of that port, and with the Marine Notary, the sum of one thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, as the value of the said barque, and by this deponent and the said José Vidal y Ribas binding and making liable all their real and personal property, in the event of the said barque engaging in the Slave Trade, or any contraband or illegal Traffic, to the amount of double the value of the said vessel and cargo, as by the certificate of the Commandant of the Marine Office at Barcelona, deposited in this Honourable Court, reference being thereunto had, will fully appear.

And this deponent further saith that the said José Vidal y Ribas hath sustained heavy damage consequent upon the illegal detention of the said barque.

C.

Appeared personally, Juan Amat, mate of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," who maketh oath, and saith:—That he is a subject of Her Catholic Majesty the Queen of Spain, and mate of the said barque "*Fernando Po*." That he sailed in the said vessel, as mate, from Barcelona, in Spain, on the seventeenth day of June last. That the said vessel was bound for the Island of Fernando Po, but that the said vessel called in at Gibraltar, after leaving Barcelona, for the purpose of taking in a portion of her cargo. That the said vessel remained at Gibraltar about eight or nine days, and then proceeded on her voyage. That on the thirty-first day of July last past, the said Tomas Torrens and this deponent sighted the land of Dutch Accra and immediately stood in for the same, and the said vessel came to anchor off the town of Dutch Accra, about four o'clock on the afternoon of the same day. That while standing in for the land, the master of the said barque Tomas Torrens, and this deponent, both perceived two vessels of war lying at anchor off the said town, which vessels, this deponent has since learnt, are Her Britannic Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*." That the said barque "*Fernando Po*" was brought to anchor very near to the said vessels of war. That shortly after the said vessel was brought to anchor, a boat left the "*Dolphin*" and came alongside the said vessel. That an individual, who seemed to be a midshipman, was in charge of the said boat, and came on board the said barque and made certain inquiries as to her name, destination, cargo, and the port from whence she arrived, and upon receiving the necessary information, left the vessel. That the said Tomas Torrens left the said barque in charge of this deponent as mate of the said barque, and proceeded on shore to the town of Accra, about eight o'clock in the morning of the first day of August. That this deponent had previously heard from the said Tomas Torrens that he had been instructed to call in at the said town for the purpose of ascertaining the state of trade in palm oil and African produce. That shortly after the said Tomas Torrens left the "*Fernando Po*," a boat put off from the said "*Minx*" and came alongside the "*Fernando Po*," with a person in charge of her, whom this deponent supposed to be a naval officer in Her Britannic Majesty's service. That there were eight or ten men in the said boat, and that, upon her boarding the "*Fernando Po*" the said officer came on the deck of the said vessel, and addressed himself to one Henrique Cera, steward of the said vessel, who speaks English. That Henrique Cera immediately informed this deponent that the said officer had come on board for the purpose of ascertaining the cargo of the said vessel, and also of searching her. That this deponent directed the said Henrique Cera to inform the officer that the said Tomas Torrens, the master of the said vessel, was on shore, and that unless the said officer produced his warrant or commission from the Commander of the vessel to which the said officer belonged, this deponent would not permit him to search the said "*Fernando Po*." That the said Henrique Cera informed the said officer of this deponent's determination, and that, thereupon, the said officer ordered the crew of the said boat under his command to lift off the aft hatches of the said "*Fernando Po*," which they immediately did, and several of the said crew, together with the said officer, Charles Foscarinus Tapril, went down into the hold of the said vessel and began to search and remove and bring on deck portions of the cargo of the said vessel. That the said crew conducted the search in an improper and violent manner, and thereby injured several articles of household furniture, part of the said cargo, and broke open three boxes of liqueurs, also part of the said cargo, and removed the bottles from the same, a great many of which this deponent subsequently found empty on the deck of the said vessel. That about five o'clock on the afternoon of the said first day of August, two officers belonging to the said vessels of war came on board the "*Fernando Po*." That this deponent was informed by some of the boats' crew belonging to one of the said vessels of war that the said officers were the Commanders of the said vessels "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*." That upon the arrival of the said officers on board, this deponent produced to them all the papers of the said barque that were open, and likewise delivered to them a sealed envelope, containing the register and manifest of the cargo of the said vessel and other papers from the Customs Department at Barcelona. That the said officers examined most of the documents delivered to them, but did not open the envelope. That the said officers brought with them an individual who spoke Spanish and English, and who interpreted between this deponent and the said officers. That the said officers, after having examined the said documents, returned them to this deponent, stating that they were worth nothing. That the said officers inquired how many casks were on board the said vessel, to which this deponent replied, that there were a great many, but that he could not state the exact number. That thereupon the said officers required the production of a certificate accounting for the said casks, and this deponent informed them that probably they would find the same in the sealed envelope, but the said officers did

not open the said envelope immediately, but quitted the said barque, leaving her in the custody of the person who came on board from the "Minx" on the said first day of August, and whose name this deponent has since learnt is Charles Foscarinus Tapril.

And this deponent further saith, that on the morning of the second day of August he sent on shore to request the said Tomas Torrens to come on board the said "*Fernando Po*." That the said Tomas Torrens arrived on board the said vessel at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the same day, and this deponent immediately informed him of the circumstances before deposed to. That soon after the arrival of the said Tomas Torrens on board the said "*Fernando Po*," the said Commanders of the said vessels "Dolphin" and "Minx" came on board the "*Fernando Po*." That one of the said Commanders addressed himself to the said Tomas Torrens, and that the said Tomas Torrens immediately produced the papers of the said vessel that were open to the said Commanders, who examined the same for a short time, and then informed the said Tomas Torrens, through the interpreter before mentioned, that the papers were bad and not worth anything, and again demanded the production of a certificate accounting for the number of casks on board. That upon such demand the said Tomas Torrens presented to the said Commanders the sealed envelope before mentioned, and informed them that probably they would find the paper they required inclosed in the said envelope. That the said Commanders did not open the same, but proceeded below into the hold of the "*Fernando Po*," and began to search the same, and after coming upon deck left the vessel.

And this deponent further saith, that on the night of the said second day of August some of the crew belonging to the said "Minx," but then in charge of the said "*Fernando Po*," and under the command of the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril, became intoxicated, and this deponent verily believes that such intoxication was the result of their having drank the liqueur which had been taken out of the boxes that had been broken open as before mentioned.

And this deponent further saith, that the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril did not, nor did any other person engaged in the said search of the "*Fernando Po*," during the said search, nor at any time prior or subsequent thereto, deliver to this deponent as mate in command of the said "*Fernando Po*" a copy of the special instructions or orders, signed by the Commander of the said "Minx," provided for and furnished to ships of Her Britannic Majesty's Royal Navy authorized to search and detain merchant-vessels suspected upon reasonable grounds of being engaged in the Traffic of Slaves, or having been fitted out for that purpose, in pursuance of the Treaties between Great Britain and Spain, and that the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril did not (nor did any other person engaged in the said search) deliver to this deponent any certificate, signed by the said Commander of the "Minx," stating the rank of the said Charles Foscarinus Tapril in the Royal Navy, the name of the Commander by whose orders he proceeded to make the search, the name of the cruiser in which he sailed, and the object of the said search, in accordance with the terms of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, dated the twenty-eighth day of June, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five.

And this deponent further saith, that previous to his sailing from Barcelona as mate on board the said "*Fernando Po*," this deponent verily believed, from the inquiries he made and information received, that the said vessel was about to proceed on a legal voyage and to be engaged in lawful commerce until her return to Spain. That upon the voyage out this deponent was informed by the said Tomas Torrens that the provisions for the crew on board the said "*Fernando Po*" were to be divided between the said "*Fernando Po*" and the schooner "*Mariana*," also belonging to the said José Vidal y Ribas, and also that he the said Tomas Torrens thought he would meet the said vessel at Dutch Accra.

And this deponent lastly saith, that up to the present period he verily believes that the said barque "*Fernando Po*" was never intended to be engaged in any other than legal trade, and that from the fitting up of the said vessel this deponent can positively swear that he does not believe she could have been intended to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

On the same day, leave was granted to the claimant's proctor to file the following documents, marked D to K, and also to have Charles Foscarinus Tapril, second master of Her Britannic Majesty's gun-vessel "Minx," examined on certain interrogatories.

D

Is a protest by the Captain Tomas Torrens, of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," proceeding from Accra, against the Commanders of the ships of war "Dolphin" and "Minx." This protest is signed by Tomas Torrens, and by the consignee, Cesare Carrena. At the bottom is written, "This is the legalization of the signatures of Thomas Torrens and Cesare Carrena."

Fort Crevecoeur, Dutch Accra, August 3, 1855.

(Signed) T. M. NAGEGLAS.

E

Is another protest from Joaquim Roig, master of the Spanish schooner "*Mariana*," of the matriculation of Barcelona, of 203 tons burthen, the property of Don José Vidal y Ribas, a merchant of the said place, who, on arriving at Accra with a cargo of rum, in casks and demijohns, from Havana, bound to the Gulf of Guinea, where he was to meet the "*Fernando Po*," belonging to the same owner, which vessel was to bring the means fit to procure a cargo of palm oil, together with a complete assortment of merchandize, and with the rum to make a complete cargo for the two vessels; and hearing that the "*Fernando Po*" had been sent to Sierra Leone, by order of the Commanders of the English ships of war "Dolphin" and "Minx," ordered the mate to take his vessel to Whydah, and he came to Sierra Leone, where he arrived on the 18th September, at daylight, for the purpose of making a protest against the Commanders of the "Dolphin" and "Minx," which he now does.

Sierra Leone, October 9, 1855.

(Signed) JOAQUIM ROIG.

F

Is another protest, signed by Domingo Mustiche and Co., and dated Accra, 5th September, 1855, and witnessed by Cesare Carrena and Joaquim Roig: to which is attached, "Wrote and read before me, Fort Crevecoeur, Dutch Accra, 7th September, 1855."

(Signed) T. M. NAGEGLAS, *Commandant*.

The protest is to the following effect:—

"The Undersigned, Governor of Fernando Po, Amobon, and Corisco, charged with the dispatch of the Spanish barque '*Fernando Po*,' Don Tomas Torrens, arrived at this place, proceeding from Havana, with the Spanish schooner '*Mariana*,' both vessels, and another barque named '*Conchita*,' destined for the licit trade of this coast and Fernando Po Island, which is stated in due formality by Policy of the Society of the 1st of March, at Barcelona, and under the direction of Don José Vidal y Ribas, merchant of that place. I was informed that the said barque, lying at anchor in this harbour, under the protection of the Dutch fortress, and having delivered her roll to the Commandant of the said fortress, was searched, detained, and taken to Sierra Leone, by order of the Commander of the English ship of war '*Dolphin*.'

"The Commander of the '*Dolphin*' has been the first one who did not fulfil the Treaty, allowing his crew to plunder the cargo and provisions like the natives, who should conduct themselves with more moderation, until the case of the prize-officer who cowardly put his hand to his sword to the barque's mate, who begged him not to consent to such confusion.

"Such proceeding is entirely opposed to our Treaties; against the right of mankind, and against every law; brings enormous detriments, depriving myself of the operations of the '*Mariana*,' which are combined with those of the '*Fernando Po*.'

"For all I protest against the Commander of the '*Dolphin*,' and against every one, for the damage, detriment, and sufferings, present and to come, occasioned to the said vessels, and to all that have any connection with them."

G

Is a receipt for the register of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," deposited in the Dutch Fort, 31st July, 1855.

(Signed) T. M. NAGEGLAS, *Commandant*.

H

Is a declaration from the foregoing, that the Spanish Captain Tomas Torrens, opened yesterday, in his presence and that of the Commander of the "*Dolphin*," one despatch, bearing No. 178, under the seal of the Custom-house of Barcelona, in order to examine the manifest and documents which were in the said despatch, and this in order to avoid the capture of his vessel, provoked by the English cruisers on the station.

Fort Crevecoeur, Dutch Accra, August 3, 1855.

(Signed) T. M. NAGEGLAS, *Commandant*.

I

Is another declaration from the Commandant of Dutch Accra, that on the 2nd August, 1855, the ship's papers of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" had been, by the Captain Tomas Torrens, of the aforesaid barque, delivered up, on requisition of the Commanding Officer of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "*Dolphin*," on suspicion of slave-dealing, and sent to Sierra Leone.

(Signed) T. M. NAGEGLAS, *Commandant*.

K

Is a receipt from Lieutenant Webber, commanding Her Majesty's brigantine "*Dolphin*," for papers received from the master of Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens.

Mr. Tapril in his examination deposed, that Her Majesty's steam gun-vessel "*Minx*" was lying at anchor in the roadstead of Dutch Accra, on the 31st of July last, to the best of his knowledge. That he cannot positively state that the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" entered the said roadstead on that day. That no boat was dispatched from the "*Minx*" to the "*Fernando Po*" on the first day of her arrival, but witness visited her on the second day. Witness was ordered by Lieutenant Roe, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Minx*," to go on board the "*Fernando Po*" for the purpose of searching her on or about the 1st August last, to the best of his knowledge. That there were about fourteen men with him when he visited the detained vessel. That he was the only individual who had his side arms with him at the time, but the men were not provided with arms or ammunition. That on getting on board the detained vessel witness communicated to the mate, through the interpretation of the black steward, the object of his visit, at which the mate shrugged up his shoulders and spoke something in Spanish, which he did not understand, the interpreter having gone forward at the time. That he searched the after-hold of the detained vessel on the 1st of August last. That witness returned on board the "*Minx*" with his men the same night. That the suspicious circumstances, other than those mentioned in his affidavit of seizure, which induced him to communicate to the captors his suspicions that the said barque could not be engaged in legitimate trade, were his belief that slave equipment was concealed under the cargo of the "*Fernando Po*." Witness does not know that it is frequently the case for merchant-vessels of the size of the "*Fernando Po*" to have a cabin below and berths on deck. The officer in command of the "*Minx*" is a Lieutenant, and witness is Second Master in Her Britannic Majesty's Royal Navy. That neither at the time of the search of the detained vessel, nor at any subsequent period, did witness deliver to the master or to any other officer of the "*Fernando Po*" a copy of the special orders or instructions supplied to ships of Her Majesty's navy authorized to search and detain vessels engaged in the Slave Trade. That as witness was returning from the "*Fernando Po*" to the "*Minx*," he saw a boat from Her Majesty's ship "*Dolphin*" going towards the "*Fernando Po*." That witness returned to the "*Fernando Po*" on the 2nd day of August, to stow the cargo that had been left on the deck the previous day, and he slept on board that night, but he did not consider that he had charge of the detained vessel until the 3rd, when he was instructed by the captors to proceed with her to Sierra Leone for adjudication. That to the best of his recollection the "*Minx*" was made fast to the "*Fernando Po*" by a hawser on the 1st of August last. That his men did not open any boxes of liqueur to his knowledge. That

at no time to his knowledge did any part of his crew get drunk while they remained on board the barque "*Fernando Po*." Witness was informed by the captors that the papers of the "*Fernando Po*," show that she cleared out for America, and not for the Island of Fernando Po. That on the packet of the papers being handed to him by the captors, witness was informed that it contained every document necessary for the prosecution of the detained vessel, and the captors' letter to the Honourable R. Dougan, showing the ground and reason of detention, led witness to state that the seizors designed it for their declaration. That when the "*Fernando Po*" arrived at Accra, she dropped anchor about a quarter of a mile from the "Minx."

The British and Spanish Judges wishing to have some special interrogatories put to the master of the "*Fernando Po*," the answers were taken on the 12th, and are as follow:—

"That he enumerated from memory the cargo taken at Gibraltar to the notary public at that place when the notarial certificate was obtained. He did not show him the bill of lading No. 1, which he had not by him at the time; hence arose the discrepancy that exists between these documents. That the '*Fernando Po*' was cleared out at Barcelona by her owner; witness therefore cannot say why there is no clearance for the one thousand lead-bars mentioned in the bill of lading No. 2, as part of the cargo of the said vessel. That he did not think it necessary to sign the bills of lading found in the '*Fernando Po*,' which were for himself. Witness signed a bill of lading for the goods shipped at Barcelona, which he left with the owner; and he also signed two bills of lading for the cargo shipped at Gibraltar, one copy of which was kept by the consignee at that place, and the other forwarded to the owner at Barcelona. That he received orders from the owner to take advice and instructions from Mr. Mustich, on the coast, with reference to the trade of the vessel. Don Mustich was to take any part of the cargo if he required the same for the purposes of trade. There are two bulk-heads, one dividing the cabin from the hold, and the other the hold from the fore-castle. That the cabin accommodation was also made use of by witness and his officers. The invoice of the goods shipped at Gibraltar was sent to the owner at Barcelona. That witness received written instructions from the owner to dispose of the cargo for palm-oil and other African produce, which instructions he has with him, and will produce them, if necessary. Witness took in five or six casks of water at Gibraltar."

On the same day, and by order of the Court, Messrs. Taylor and Mc Cormack, the surveyors, were examined as to the extent of the cabin accommodations of the "*Fernando Po*," when Mr. Taylor deposed—

"That there are no bunks, so called, on board the '*Fernando Po*,' but there are six sleeping-berths in the round-house over the wheel of that vessel. There are eight sleeping berths in the cabin. It is common for merchant-ships engaged in legal trade to have accommodation below and on deck. The '*Fernando Po*'s' accommodations are not more than necessary for a merchant-vessel so engaged."

Mr. Mc Cormack deposed—

"That there are no bunks on board the '*Fernando Po*,' but there are six sleeping-berths on deck—four on the larboard side, and two on the starboard, underneath a cuddy or couch-top, over the after part of the vessel. There are eight inclosed berths in the cabin, two on the larboard side being double; three on the starboard, one single and one double; and one on the starboard aft across the ship. Witness has seen in several instances wherein merchant-vessels engaged in legal trade had accommodations below and on deck. The accommodations of the '*Fernando Po*' are upon an equality with many vessels engaged in lawful commerce."

On the 11th the captor's proctor petitioned for further time until the 16th instant, in consequence of continued ill health, to enable him to reply to the defence made on behalf of the claimant, which having been assented to by the proctor on the other side, was granted on the 12th.

On the 15th certain special interrogatories were allowed by the Court to be put to Tomas Torrens, master of the "*Fernando Po*," and Joaquim Roig. From the former individual the following answers were elicited:—

"That he is acquainted with the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain of 1835, but witness does not think it obligatory on the master of a merchant-vessel to produce a certificate from the custom-house, showing that security had been given for extra quantity of water-casks (over and above the wants of the crew) intended to hold palm-oil, or for other purposes of lawful commerce, besides accounting for such extra casks on the manifest of the vessel. Previous to the departure of the '*Fernando Po*' from Barcelona, her owner gave security for the proper and lawful use of the vessel and cargo. He is aware that vessels having extra casks without accounting for their lawful use, subject themselves to detention, but he considers he has accounted for the water-casks on board the '*Fernando Po*,' inasmuch as they appear on the manifest of that vessel. Witness does not consider that the papers of any Spanish vessel having extra quantity of water-casks without the certificate above-mentioned, are informal or incomplete; because the authorities at Barcelona do not demand any such security for casks carried by vessels employed on foreign voyages."

Joaquim Roig deposed—

"That he does not know that the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain of 1835 rendered it necessary for the master of a merchant-vessel carrying extra casks more than are requisite for the use of her crew, to produce a certificate from the custom-house whence she cleared outwards. That proper security had been given by her owner that such extra casks should be employed to hold palm-oil, or for other purposes of lawful commerce. He does not know that any merchant-vessel would be liable to seizure without the certificate before-mentioned. Witness considers that the papers of a merchant-vessel are in due form and sufficient without any such certificate. That the only time he called at Monrovia during this year was when he was coming up here in the mail-packet 'Retriever.' He saw a Hamburg schooner (whose name witness does not know) under sail some time in August last, a little to the northward of Grand Cestos. He did not visit the schooner, nor did he make any inquiries from her master either as to trade, or to whether slaves were to be obtained. He is acquainted with Don Mustich. He was a passenger on board the '*Mariana*,' which vessel witness commanded. When they fell in with the Hamburg schooner, Don Mustich went on board of her to inquire whether he could obtain any fresh water and provisions from her, but failing in doing so, he returned on board the '*Mariana*,' which vessel then proceeded to Dutch Accra."

On the 17th of October the following petition was presented by the captor's proctor, and granted, praying that a certified copy of a letter addressed to the Senior Officer, Her Britannic Majesty's

Navy, Sierra Leone, from Mr. Newnham, the British Consul at Monrovia, dated September 10, 1855, might be received as evidence. The following is a copy:—

"The petition of John Dyett, Proctor, on behalf of Lieutenant Edmund Webber, commanding Her Majesty's brigantine of war 'Dolphin,' and Lieutenant Richard Henry Roe, commanding Her Majesty's steam gun-vessel 'Minx,' and the officers and crews of the said vessels: Humbly sheweth—

"That your petitioner, by leave of your Honours, had Joaquim Roig, the master of the Spanish schooner '*Mariana*,' and a witness produced on behalf of the claimant, examined on interrogatories put to him through the Registrar of your Honourable Court by your petitioner, on behalf of the seizers of the barque '*Fernando Po*,' to one of which interrogatories the said Joaquim Roig admitted in reply, that Don Mustich went on board in August last a Hamburg schooner then off Grand Cestos.

"That your petitioner was induced to ask this question in consequence of a letter received by Commander Leckie, R.N., of Her Majesty's sloop "Ferret," from Her Majesty's Consul at Liberia, Mr. Newnham, which letter handed to your petitioner, and duly certified by the said Commander Leckie, is herewith laid over for the information of your Honours, by which letter it will be seen that Don Mustich did go on board the Hamburg schooner 'Liberia,' as admitted by the said Joaquim Roig in his examination, and the circumstances which transpired on board the said schooner 'Liberia,' whilst the said Don Mustich was on board there, thus connecting by the strongest circumstantial evidence the fact that the said Don Mustich, the consignee of the '*Fernando Po*' and '*Mariana*,' is interested in the Slave Trade; and affording also by reason of his being the consignee of the aforesaid vessels, and attended with other suspicious circumstances, presumptive evidence of the said vessels being also intended for that traffic.

"That, from the above circumstances, your petitioner is desirous of having the said letter herewith laid over, filed, and admitted as evidence in the above case, and humbly prays that your Honours will be pleased to allow the annexed document, being the certified copy of Commander Leckie, of the letter of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Liberia, Mr. Newnham, addressed to the said Commander Leckie be received and filed as evidence in the case; and your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

"Sir,

"British Consulate, Monrovia, September 10, 1855.

"This day personally appeared before me, at my office in this town, J. Frederickson, master of the Hamburg schooner 'Liberia,' and stated as follows, viz:—

"That on or about the 29th of last month (August) there came on board his vessel, the 'Liberia,' whilst at anchor off Sinou, a port of entry in the Republic of Liberia, one Domingo Mustich, master of the schooner '*Mariana*,' from Havana, flying Spanish colours, from the said vessel '*Mariana*,' then lying-to in the offing, and made inquiries as to trade, and whether slaves were to be obtained, &c.

"It is the opinion of the master of the 'Liberia,' that the '*Mariana*' is about to take in slaves.

"On the 19th of last month (August), came to anchor in this port of entry an American vessel of suspicious appearance, the '*Alexander Mitchell*,' from New York, whose owner has been engaged in the Slave Trade—foremast, square; main and mizen masts, schooner-rigged; supercargo, a Spaniard.

"I transmit the 'Liberia Herald,' No. 9, of August 22nd, 1855, wherein is an article respecting an American vessel of suspicious appearance.

"I have, &c.

(Signed) "J. G. W. NEWNHAM."

On the 22nd, a joint petition from both proctors, for a day of trial to be appointed, was presented, and granted for the 27th, when the Court accordingly met, and the case came on for hearing.

On the captor's proctor, however, rising to move that the evidence in the case might be read, a preliminary objection was made by the claimant's proctor, who spoke at some length, contending that the capture was illegal, and argued that the captors had not fulfilled the requirements of the 3rd clause of Article IV of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, of the 28th of June, 1835, and quoted the opinion of Sir W. Scott in the case of "*Le Louis*," respecting the seizure of a French vessel, and Vattel on International Law.

The British and Spanish Judges not agreeing on the point mooted by Mr. Shervington, it became necessary to have recourse to an Arbitrator to decide between them, and his Excellency Governor Hill was immediately sworn in to the office of Acting British Arbitrator in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice, there being no Arbitrator on the part of Spain in the Colony. The Court, which had adjourned for that purpose, reassembled at half-past 3 p.m., with the Arbitrator. The arguments were then repeated by the claimant's proctor in favour of the illegality of the detention of the "*Fernando Po*," which were replied to by Mr. Dyett, who quoted two or three cases adjudicated by the Mixed Courts established here, in which the same objections had been brought forward, but which the Court had decided were matters of mere informality, and whose decisions had been confirmed by the authorities in England.

Mr. Shervington stated in rejoinder, that it must be proved on the part of the captors that the interpretation put upon the sections by the authorities in England had been assented to on the part of Spain, and quoted Vattel, page 244, section 265, showing that neither of the two High Contracting Parties has a right to interpret a Treaty according to his own views.

The Court adjourned till the following Monday at 10 a.m., when it reassembled, Governor Hill as Arbitrator taking his seat on the bench. Her Majesty's Arbitrator then having decided that the omissions were mere matters of informality, and did not render the seizure and detention of the "*Fernando Po*" illegal, the evidence was being read by the Registrar, when the claimant's proctor objected to the Consul at Liberia's letter being received as evidence, and contended that the certificates of British Consuls not being admitted in the Courts in England, he submitted that the document could not be received as evidence on that ground; moreover it was only a copy, and could not be received as evidence, the original being still in existence. The Spanish Judge refused to admit the document in question as evidence, although it had been granted by both Judges, it being in his opinion contrary to

the Law of Nations to do so. It also appeared that the Spanish Judge was under the impression that the petition was only to be received and filed, without admitting the letter as evidence; the British Judge and Arbitrator however decided that it should be admitted.

The claimant's proctor then prayed for leave to bring in two letters as evidence in the case, inasmuch as they showed the design of the "*Fernando Po's*" visiting the coast of Africa.

The proctor for the captors objected to it, on the ground that the case had closed, and that it was contrary to the usual practice to receive evidence after the day of trial had been fixed. The claimant's proctor replied, that they could not be presented sooner, not having arrived in the Colony earlier.

The British and Spanish Judges allowed them to be received as evidence.

Besides these letters there were handed into Court a bundle of papers, consisting of a bill of lading and invoices of the cargo shipped at Barcelona and Gibraltar, and the following order for palm oil :—

"To Mr. Juan Té, Sericafe.

"My dear Sir,

"Aguia, October 6, 1855.

"To the bearer of the present, Don Joaquim Roig, you could deliver your oil, and that of Antonio Abraham Anzanycoin; the receipt that shall be given by the said gentleman will be equivalent to the order paid to me or my order. I hope you will do me the favour, and dispatch him as soon as possible. And for all I shall feel much obliged to you.

(Signed)

"DOMINGO MUSTICH & CO."

On the evidence on both sides being read, the Court adjourned for half-an-hour.

On its reassembling, Mr. Dyett proceeded on behalf of the captors, and said he would not occupy much of the time of the Court, but would cull from the voluminous evidence such portion as bore most directly upon the case. The barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens, master, belonging to the firm of José Vidal y Ribas, of Barcelona in Spain, cleared out from Barcelona in June last for the Island of Fernando Po, and was consigned to Don Mustich, Governor of that Island. She was subsequently seized at Dutch Accra by Her Majesty's cruisers "Dolphin" and "Minx," and sent to this port on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

The captain of the "*Fernando Po*," in his articles stated he shipped two cooks, which was certainly more than would be required for a crew of fourteen men; he thought it indicated an intention of taking more persons than the crew, in short, that he intended to take slaves. Another suspicious circumstance was the finding, by the captors, secreted below a board with the name "*Josefita*" painted on it, and ready for putting up. Don Mustich too, the gentleman to whom the vessel was consigned, was well known to have been extensively engaged in the Slave Trade, and is of very questionable reputation; and in addition to this a letter had been received from the Consul at Liberia, stating that Don Mustich had recently boarded a vessel off Sinow, one of the ports of that Republic, and inquired whether any slaves were to be obtained. The "*Fernando Po*" had also a cabin below and berths on deck, which was unusual for merchant-vessels, and also beams which would have enabled the crew to lay a slave-deck upon in a very short time. But the principal circumstance upon which he dwelt was an extraordinary number of water casks (650) for which the master had no certificate from the custom-house at which he cleared out. He contended that such a number could only be intended to hold water for the supply of slaves. It was, moreover, incredible that so large and experienced a firm as José Vidal y Ribas did not know that for such an extraordinary number of casks the Treaty required that the captain should be provided with a custom-house certificate. Mr. Dyett concluded by calling on the Court to condemn the "*Fernando Po*" with all her fittings and cargo as a lawful prize to the Crowns of Great Britain and Spain.

Mr. Shervington, the claimant's proctor, proceeded to say that his learned friend laid great stress upon the fact of the captain shipping two cooks. But he did not ship two cooks for the voyage. He engaged one, but finding him incompetent, he sent him forward and took another in his place. Then if there was a great deal to cook they must have something to put it in, but in this case the surveyors found only a very few culinary utensils. Much had been said about a board found below by the captors bearing the name "*Josefita*," but nothing was said by his learned friend about the ship's bell upon which the same name was engraven, and which was upon deck. He also stated that the vessel had previously been called the "*Josefita*." But the "*Fernando Po*" having a cabin below and berths on deck, according to the statement of the surveyors, was by no means unusual in merchant-vessels. The principal fact insisted upon was an extraordinary number (650) of water-casks which were found on board the vessel, and for which the captain had no certificate as required by the Treaty. He admitted this fact, but said it was the general impression amongst Spanish merchants that the entry of such articles on the manifest as had been done in this case was sufficient. But besides entering them in the manifest, the captain and owner had given a large bond to the Marine Department at Barcelona as security against their engaging in illicit Traffic, and in addition to this they had obtained a certificate from the British Consul at Barcelona, stating that he had the strongest reason for believing that the "*Fernando Po*" was proceeding on a lawful voyage. He further argued that it would be absurd to conclude that so large a number of casks were intended to hold water for supplying slaves, as the vessel was not more than 250 tons burthen. In so small a ship such a number of casks would take up too much space, and would leave hardly any room for a cargo of slaves.

According to the evidence a part of the casks brought out in the "*Fernando Po*" was to be handed over to the "*Mariana*," and both vessels were to procure, if possible, cargoes of palm-oil. No shackles, nor planks, nor any large quantity of rice, were found on board. And again, when the barque was seized she had a large cargo of merchandize, which is very rare with vessels engaged in the Slave Trade. As to Don Mustich inquiring whether slaves were to be had, that was no proof that he was actually engaged in Slave Trade. He believed that if the case were decided upon its real merits the "*Fernando Po*" would be at once restored to her owner.

Mr. Dyett replied he should not follow his learned friend through his voluminous argument, but would confine himself strictly to the point at issue. The Treaty distinctly required that a vessel with an extraordinary number of casks should have a certificate from the custom-house. This vessel had an extraordinary number of casks but no certificate; she ought, therefore, to be condemned as lawful prize to the Crowns of Great Britain and Spain.

The Judges retired for a short time to consult, and on their return adjourned the Court until the following day at 2 o'clock.

On the following day (30th) judgment was given by the British and Spanish Judges, declaring the restoration of the barque "*Fernando Po*," without costs, damages, and expenses, and pronounced the liberation of the crew.

The Court, moreover, decided that the expenses attendant upon the landing, storage, and re-shipment of the cargo, together with the refitment of the vessel, should be equally divided between the captors and claimant.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Sierra Leone, November 9, 1855.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Opinion of the British Judge.

I HAVE fully considered the objections raised by the claimant's proctor to the entertainment of the case of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," on the ground of the illegality of the seizure, occasioned by irregularities of the captors at the time of detention, and am of opinion that the case should be proceeded with, and the evidence read, since it has been decided that every deviation from the Treaty does not necessarily invalidate a capture, this point having been settled in the cases of the "*Fabiana*" in 1824, and "*Mosca*" in 1836; the IXth Article of the Treaty appearing to me to provide for any contingencies of this nature: it distinctly states that in case the Commanding Officers of any of the ships of the Royal Navies of England and Spain shall deviate in any respect from the stipulations of the Treaty, or from the Instructions annexed to it, the Government which shall conceive itself to be wronged thereby shall be entitled to demand reparation, and in such case the Government to which such Commanding Officers may belong binds itself to cause an inquiry to be made into the subject of the complaint, and to inflict a punishment proportioned to any wilful transgression which he may have committed.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON,
Her Britannic Majesty's Judge ad interim.

Sierra Leone, October 27, 1855.

Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

Opinion of the Spanish Judge.

IT being proved by a sworn declaration of the captors, taken before the Registrar of the Court, that previous to, or even after, the search and detention of the "*Fernando Po*," they have shown no document to her captain, authorizing them to capture or visit Spanish vessels under suspicion of being engaged in Slave Trade, and that they refused furthermore to accede to the repeated demands of the said captain, requesting the presentation of those documents;

Considering, without entering even partially into the merits of the case, that not a single evidence of the "*Fernando Po*" being engaged in this nefarious traffic exists in this Court, but, on the contrary, that every one of those brought before the Judges prove, beyond a shadow of doubt, that, at the time of the seizure, she was engaged in lawful traffic;

Whereas the seizors, in refusing to produce the aforesaid document, have violated the 3rd clause of the IVth Article of the Treaty of 1835, which imperatively commands all officers cruising on the coast to show the warrant on which they visit Spanish vessels, to their captains;

Whereas, it is to be regretted that the division of opinion between the two Judges on the illegality of the seizure, arise not from the view they would take of the case itself, not from a want of proof as to the truth of the statement made by the captain, declaring that the officer has refused to show him the document, but only and solely because the British Judge will obey the commands of an official despatch of the Minister George Canning, dated the 20th May, 1824, referred to in a despatch of Lord Palmerston, in the year 1836;

Whereas these two despatches embody the private opinion of the King's Advocate in London, giving it as a doctrine to be followed by the Mixed Commission Court at Sierra Leone, that the violation of the 3rd clause of the IVth Article referred to cannot invalidate the capture, interpretation which leads to a destruction of all Treaties and violates the Law of Nations;

Whereas both Ministers, in sending to the English Judges the order to act in conformity with this interpretation, direct them to go contrary to the letter of the 3rd clause of the IVth Article, and to the Law of Nations, which, in the most positive terms, deny to one party the right of interpreting an Article of a Treaty without the full assent of the other;

Whereas the Spanish Government has never been acquainted with the aforesaid interpretation, and could not have agreed to it;

The Spanish Judge, in the fullest independence of his conscience, who will never consent to be ruled by any other opinion but his own in the administration of justice, whose decisions are without appeal; who will never submit to any dictation in circumstances in which his intellect is the safeguard of his conscience, inspired by a stern and unfettered impartiality, and a perfect knowledge of his responsibility; whose imperative duty in the Mixed Court of Justice is to execute to the letter, without any interpretation, the whole and every one of the Articles of the Treaty of 1835; declares on the face of the IVth Article of the same, and of an Act of the British Parliament enforcing rigidly its compliance on the part of the British officers concerned, that the detention of the "*Fernando Po*" is illegal, that the whole proceedings are null and void; condemns the captors to the full amount of damages in favour of the defendant; and protests in the most emphatic manner against the interpretation of the King's Advocate on the 3rd clause, and against all measures tending to keep the "*Fernando Po*" any longer under the jurisdiction of the Court.

Given in full Court of the Mixed Commissions at Sierra Leone, the 27th of October, 1855.

(Signed) CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 7.

Opinion of the British Arbitrator.

I HAVE been called into Court, as Arbitrator, to give my opinion on a question raised by the advocate of the claimants, on which the Judges present had not agreed, touching the legality of the seizure of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*."

I have heard the Judges read in the Court the several reasons on which they ground their difference of opinion.

I have listened to the learned advocate for the claimants, who read to the Court the 3rd clause of the IVth Article of the Treaty made between England and Spain, and signed, at Madrid on the 28th of June, 1835, and argued that the captors had not fulfilled the requirements of such clause; the learned gentleman also quoted an opinion of Sir William Scott respecting the seizure of a French vessel; introduced that celebrated writer on international law, Vattel, who expressed himself to the effect that whatever we read, should be accepted in the words it is written, except it should appear contrary to reason (leaving, in my opinion, a wide field for discussion, as mankind do not always agree as to what is reasonable), and, further, that no nation was justified in reading a Treaty to suit its own views. The learned advocate also urged the injustice to the claimants, consequent on the tedious process of appeal by written correspondence introduced into this Court, and supported his views of the intention of the 3rd clause of the Treaty by reading an Act of Parliament enforcing the terms and giving to the Treaty a higher law authority.

In reply, I heard the learned advocate for the captors admit the non-compliance with the provisions of the 3rd clause of Article IV of the Treaty, which he contended would only be considered in the light of an irregularity of no importance as regards the right of seizure, and he showed, as a precedent, that the vessels the "*Mosca*" and the "*General Mina*" had been condemned, notwithstanding the same argument had been used and admitted against their seizure; he proved that this Court had so ruled, and Lord Palmerston had, in a most clear and decided manner, expressed his approval of the opinion of the Court on the subject, repeating that his Lordship considered the non-compliance with the provisions of the 3rd clause of Article IV was only an irregularity, not affecting the seizure of the vessels in question. The learned gentleman repudiated Vattel as foreign to the question at issue; would not enter into the question of the French vessel, as no Treaty had existed between France and Great Britain on the subject of the Slave Trade; and concluded by reading the 6th clause of Article X of the Treaty, on which he urged that the "*Fernando Po*" was lawfully seized.

The learned advocate for the claimants, in rejoinder, spoke in not very flattering terms of the antecedents of this Court; deplored the consequences, if the judges were to be guided by the rule established in such cases as that before the Court; feared for the future good understanding between Spain and Great Britain if naval officers were allowed to exercise at their discretion the right of seizure; and repudiated the opinion of Lord Palmerston excepting such opinion had been confirmed by both High Contracting Parties.

I made it my duty to read over carefully the Treaty of 1835 between Spain and Great Britain, and I have duly considered the provisions contained in the 3rd clause of Article IV.

It appears to me that two great and enlightened nations entered into this Treaty to put down an inhuman and disgraceful Traffic, demoralizing to all concerned in it. It is not my province to enter into the merits of the case pending as regards the "*Fernando Po*." I shall therefore confine myself to my opinion respecting the arguments for and against the non-fulfilment of the provisions in the 3rd clause of Article IV affecting the legality of the seizure.

This clause I consider was very properly introduced to prevent by preliminary formalities any hostile collision between the officers and men of the cruisers, and the officers and crews of the vessels boarded. I believe that had the crew of the "*Fernando Po*" denied the right of search on the ground that the boarding-officer had not exhibited the required authority, resisted the boarders, and a conflict had ensued, the Government of Great Britain would have held the officer commanding the cruiser responsible for the consequences of his neglect and the non-fulfilment of the necessary formalities required by the 3rd clause of Article IV.

But I cannot believe that the two great nations by whom this Treaty was concluded for the sake of humanity and the advancement of civilization, carrying out a great principle at a large pecuniary sacrifice, ever contemplated that either in the spirit or meaning attached to the wording of the 3rd clause, Article IV, it should be considered that the non-compliance with the formalities required by such clause rendered the seizure of any vessel illegal, supposed on reasonable grounds to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am therefore of opinion that the non-compliance of the captors with the formalities required by the 3rd clause of Article IV of the Treaty, can only be considered as an irregularity, not affecting the legality of the seizure of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*."

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor and Arbitrator.

Mixed Commission Court, Sierra Leone, October 29, 1855.

Inclosure 5 in No. 7.

M. Ribas to M. Mustich.

(Translation.)

My dear Sir,

Barcelona, June 16, 1855.

YOUR favour of the 11th past acquaints me of your safe arrival at Havana, and of the bad state of the market for wines; and that you were in hopes to realize a price not under 55 dollars, which I hope you have done, notwithstanding it gives so little profit; then you will be able to sail for the coast at the end of the past month.

I had already received intelligence from Messrs. Roig and Sale, of the purchase of 300 casks of rum, at 36 dollars, new casks, and in the hopes of your obtaining the remainder at 30 or 32 dollars. This article is very low in our market, being offered at 38 dollars.

Bearing in mind your wishes to retard the departure of the "*Fernando Po*," she will be only dispatched to-morrow to Gibràltar. I have put all her cargo on board. There she shall take the English and Swiss merchandize, and also the crockery.

It has been impossible to me to send the fifty quintals of stockfish, because there was none in this depôt, nor in that of Tarragona, which is the reason that I only send you a little. If you are in great need of it, I shall send by the "*Conchita*" the said quantity. With that vessel will be sent, too, a larger quantity of Galicia hams, which, as I was informed, are the best, and last longest; twelve of them have been added to the provisions of the "*Fernando Po*," for your use.

I feel very sorry for what you tell me about the delay of the "*Conchita*," because there are ready for her about 3,000 iron bars in Sweden. I shall get ready, too, many bundles of shooks, which will be very useful, according to what we spoke with friend Mr. Roig, in order that, in a few days after her arrival, you may be able to dispatch her for the coast.

According to what your brother wrote, you will meet a good opportunity for the rum, which he says was sold at 75 dollars. I have no doubt that with such good assortment as you will receive, you might be able to collect quickly the cargoes of oil for the "*Mariana*" and the "*Fernando Po*."

This article is now at a good price; it has been sold lately in Marseilles at 97 francs. It is a price at which, with little difference, I could realize a cargo to be delivered at the end of the year, according to the news I may receive from you from the coast. I shall sell with anticipation a part of them; then I will wait your arrival, according to the condition of the business on the North.

Mr. Misalda is finishing his assortment, and he is anxiously waiting for a cargo. It would be useful that you should send the balance of his account you spoke to me about.

Nothing has been possible to do with the gum copal, which is still at Marseilles, with the exception of some that is here. I shall soon pass there, and then I shall try by all means to get rid of it.

The suspension of our workmen and the raising of wages is the cause that Mr. Nogues and Pompido have not yet delivered the 1,000 casks bargained for, and Mr. Pons none.

The prints did not exactly answer with the samples sent, and it has been impossible to deliver them for the same reasons. They are of better quality, and of bright colours. As they were not of fashionable patterns, they have been purchased with 25 per cent. under price.

The repairs of the "*Fernando Po*" were of more importance than you thought, and the expenses exceeded 2,200 dollars, without mentioning 800 dollars more expended in sundries, salaries, and the crew's advances.

As per inclosed invoice, sent with the "*Fernando Po*," I have charged:

\$4,051	7	20	Value and expenses with Swiss goods.
9,547	9	18	" " English "
6,055	2	21	" " Home "
204	0	14	Amount of furniture sent.
107	19	4	Value of the goods for Accra in your charge.

By this and the other expenses you may see, as per account current sent lately, they are greater than the inversion of 75,000 dollars of social capital, without mentioning the value of the iron ready in Switzerland. I could not calculate the value of the bath which was given to me, because I have not received the account. It is a white metal, of a good appearance, with the advantage that it never changes the colour, being far preferable to silver when cleansed with a brush and lime; it remains as new, is very strong, and much preferable to that we spoke about before.

The Captain Torrens carries a wooden gauging-rod for the casks, and another one in copper, of the capacity of a gallon. As per experience, each gallon of oil weighs nine English pounds. This measure can serve as computation for the others, because the said English pounds are exactly 250 gallons per ton, or 20 English cwt., as you are well aware of the considerable deficiency of the last voyage.

The "*Fernando Po*," as we have agreed, has instructions to land at Cape Coast to receive orders. She goes well documented, to avoid any difficulty on the voyage; it shall be probable that she may arrive there at the end of August. The captain carries, besides, a package of samples of the Liverpool goods; those of Switzerland are in the bale No. 47 VR. Also he carries a package with the prints, another with sealing wax, and a small box with two seals.

I hope you feel well, also the friend Roig, to whom I send my compliments.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOSE VIDAL Y RIBAS.

Inclosure 6 in No. 7.

M. Mustich to M. Roig.

(Translation.)

Friend Roig,

Aguia, October 3, 1855.

I HAVE just received your favour of the 18th past, and by it I see that there is a probability of a good termination concerning the barque, with reason for indemnities, which if not should be obtained with the present, we must withdraw, because there is no patience to bear such insults.

In the expectation of a good termination, it will be possible to sell some cases of liqueur for three dollars or more, and the biscuit, with 30 per cent. profit. It should be convenient without delay to proceed to Accra, where I wrote to Mr. Cazena that the balance of his account and that of the other two should be paid in oil or cash; consequently on your arrival there you may receive the said balance in oil or cash, preferring always the first, because here the money is given at three months' credit, at the rate of a dollar per three gallons. I have left what I had at Sericale.

If by exchanging with liqueur or provisions you can buy three good canoes of seven rowers, it would be as well to do so, and ballast them here.

Departing from Accra you will proceed to Sericafé, from where if I receive good news from you by the next mail, assuring a good termination for the barque, I shall send an order for 6,000 gallons, which are to be given to me at the end of November, which you can receive, as well as to sell some of the goods you bring, for the prices I shall appoint to you.

If by chance you arrive before the time you will give me notice, and afterwards you will proceed to Sericafé, and there exhibit the order inclosed to Mr. Juan, in order that he may pay you whilst I am preparing my business. I have ten thousand gallons, of which seven are shipped. There is plenty of other things beside oil.

wish you good health, &c.

(Signed)

DOMINGO MUSTICH & CO.

Inclosure 7 in No. 7.

Bond.

(Translation.)

I, DON PEDRO MARTIR DE FORTUNY, Principal Writer of Her Majesty's Marine Department of Barcelona, do hereby certify that in the office in my charge and in my register, is found the writing as follows:—

"Don Tomas Torrens, second pilot of the Matriculation of Barcelona, master of the barque named '*Fernando Po*,' of the matriculation of Barcelona, of 250 tons burthen, of the value of 6,000 dollars, laying at anchor in this port, and ready to put to sea: That having presented a petition to the Chief of this Naval Department, soliciting a Royal Patent of Navigation, his Excellency has decreed as follows:—

"'*Barcelona*, March 24, 1855.—Pass to the Marine Department to give a security.—*De la Rosa*.'"

"In consequence the authorising person has expressed that he gives and gave security in an ample and due form, and under good faith promised to Her Majesty the Queen Donna Isabel Segunda, and by her to the said Marine Commander and other Chiefs and Justices of any branch whatever, that he will not deliver up this document to anybody else, as well as not to provide himself with an equal one delivered by a foreign Government: that he will not engage in the Slave Trade: that he will not exercise the contraband Trade: that when the time expressed in the same patent should expire, he will restore the original to the Marine Department of this province: that in the case of capture, shipwreck, or other accident unforeseen, that may happen to him, he will duly attest the same: that in conformity to the contents of the Royal Order of the 28th of May, 1851, when the expiration of the length of time of this patent will take place, another one would be delivered in a port that is not of the matriculation of the said vessel, under the tenour of the Order of the 10th February, 1850: the obligations that he contracts by the present letter shall be left subsisting, and the security for the same continued, until the vessel verify her return to this port. All that he promises to attend and fulfil without delay or any subterfuge, with the usual fees of attorney, restitution of damage and costs, under penalty of one half of the value of the said vessel that has been given.

"In testimony of this promise, he gives as security Don José Vidal y Ribas, merchant, of this place, who accepts the charge, and consents to be subject and obliged to all the above promises of his principal, as well on this one or other, as for himself.

"In fulfilment of which they engage all and in separate, all his moveable goods and places in possession, resigning any law in his favour for laws of fellowship and security and in general use.

"Under the said testimony this is granted and signed by the above writer in *Barcelona* on the 27th of March, 1855: the witnesses—Don Juan Branlio Nicolan and Don Eugenio Estacen, residents in the same place; Tomas Torrens, José Vidal y Ribas, Pedro Martir de Fortuny, who wrote it."

And to be known, I have delivered the present first copy in this sheet of paper, sealed with the "*Ilustres*" seal, which I have signed and marked in *Barcelona* on the day of its being granted.—*De la Rosa*; Pedro Martir de Fortuny.

Inclosure 8 in No. 7.

Judgment given in the case of the Spanish barque "Fernando Po."

THIS is the case of a vessel captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and sent up to this Mixed Court of Justice for adjudication.

The omissions on the part of the captors having already been decided, that they only amounted to irregularities, which could not invalidate the seizure, we shall now proceed to consider the allegations contained in the captors' letter, which has been put in this Court as evidence, and which shows the grounds and reasons for the detention of the "*Fernando Po*."

The first cause assigned for detention is, that contrary to the 6th paragraph of the Xth Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, she had on board an extraordinary number of water-casks, for which the master had no certificate from the custom-house whence she cleared outwards, showing that sufficient security had been given that these casks should be used for palm-oil, or for other purposes of lawful commerce. In addition to this, the captors state their suspicion of her name being changed, or about to be changed, inasmuch as she has various names in different parts of the ship; and they say a board is found in the hold, with the name "*Josefita*" carved on it, the bell of the ship also bearing that name; they also state that there were six bunks on the upper deck, and that the manifests and clearances found in a parcel under seal, and addressed to the authorities at *Fernando Po*, which was opened by the master in presence of the captors and the Commandant of Dutch Accra, are marked for America, and not for Africa.

The second, third, and fourth of these charges cannot, in our opinion, be maintained.

The Surveyors of the Court have sworn that though there are sleeping-berths on deck, the accommodations of the "*Fernando Po*" are not more than would be required for merchant-vessels engaged in legal commerce; the mere fact of the vessel having changed her name because she has passed into the hands of another owner, stamps no suspicion on her character; and if the headings of the manifests and clearances are marked "Exportation for America," yet the body of these papers distinctly states that the "*Fernando Po*" cleared out for the Port of Fernando Po: the British Consul at Barcelona having certified that these papers were drawn out and attested in the form required by that custom-house for all vessels clearing from that port on foreign voyages.

The principal and only tangible allegation against the "*Fernando Po*" is therefore the first-mentioned one—viz., an excess of water-casks, without the necessary security required by the Treaty.

The Equipment Article distinctly states that any one or more of the several circumstances mentioned therein, if proved, shall be considered as *prima facie* evidence of the actual employment of the vessel in the Slave Trade, and the vessel shall thereupon be condemned and declared lawful prize, unless satisfactory evidence on the part of the master or owner shall establish that such vessel was, at the time of detention or capture, employed in some legal pursuit.

There is therefore ground for the detention of the "*Fernando Po*;" but let us see whether any evidence has been adduced by the claimant to establish that such vessel was, at the time of detention or capture, employed in some legal pursuit.

The explanation offered by the master, in his defence, for having the extraordinary number of water-casks, is, that they were designed to hold palm-oil.

Previous to this vessel's leaving Barcelona, the owner, together with the master, gave security to the Commandant of the Marine Department, to the value of half the vessel, against engagement in the Slave or contraband Trade; and although this document is not exactly the bond required for the water-casks, yet, at the same time, it shows that the intention of the owner was to employ her in a legal pursuit. This is further substantiated by the letters from the owner to the master and consignee, in which it is stated that the return cargo of the "*Fernando Po*" should consist of oil.

From the evidence filed in this cause, it has been shown that immediately on the "*Fernando Po*'s" anchoring in the roadstead of Dutch Accra, she was detained by Her Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," previous to bulk being broken, and any engagement in the Slave Trade.

And it must not be lost sight of, that in consequence of the war with Russia, palm-oil has risen considerably in value, and that trade holds out temptations to capitalists to embark their property in so lucrative a commerce.

In the survey which has been held, there is no other prohibited article on board the "*Fernando Po*," except the water-casks, which are designed to contain palm-oil.

The Court is therefore of opinion that, while adhering strictly to the letter of the Xth Article of the Treaty, there was ground for the detention of the "*Fernando Po*," there is not sufficient ground for her condemnation.

The sentence of the Court is, that the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens master, be restored to her owner, without costs, damages, or expenses consequent upon her seizure and detention, and we likewise pronounce the crew to be immediately liberated.

The cargo which has been landed from the "*Fernando Po*" must be put on board that vessel at the expense of the claimant and captors, who both will share in the expense of refitting her as she was at the time of detention.

(Signed)

T. C. WESTON.

CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

Sierra Leone, October 30, 1855.

No. 8.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, November 19, 1855.

ON the 17th instant, the Chevalier de Guillemar d'Aragon, my Spanish colleague, addressed an official letter to the Registrar of the Mixed Courts, with a request that it should be transmitted to your Lordship with the papers relating to the case of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," a copy of which letter is accordingly forwarded herewith.

From it, it will be perceived that my colleague charges me with altering my opinion on the legality of the detention of the "*Fernando Po*," and affirms that I accepted the seizure "in obedience to a letter of George Canning and Lord Palmerston, and indicated even the pages, chapter, and marks of the blue books in which it could be found."

That I accepted the seizure under the circumstances mentioned by the Spanish Judge, I do not deny, nor is that point altered in the opinion that is forwarded to your Lordship. The principle on which I based that opinion, was laid down in the case of the "*Fabiana*," by the late Mr. Secretary Canning in the year 1824, and which was subsequently referred to by Lord Palmerston in the case of the "*Mosca*," in the year 1836; a reference to both of these cases being made in my opinion.

Wherein, then, does the alteration consist? It cannot be in the simple omission of the marks and places in the printed correspondence, in which these cases are to be found. Nor, I submit, in the addition which I subsequently made to that opinion, by quoting the IXth Article of the Treaty, which confirmed me in the view I had taken of the case.

My colleague has refrained from mentioning the reasons which he thought led to such an alteration, and I am therefore unable to explain myself further than by assuring your Lordship that the sentiments I expressed in Court are exactly those contained in the opinion, except the addition of the IXth Article of the Treaty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure in No. 8.

The Spanish Judge, ad interim, to the Registrar of the Mixed Commission Courts.

Sir,

Sierra Leone, November 17, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to direct you this despatch to express to you my surprise at seeing in the document handed to you the opinion of my British colleague so strangely and, I may safely say, so purposely altered.

The opinion upon the illegality of the capture, read by him in full Court, read by myself before and after its delivery, accepted the seizure in obedience to a letter of George Canning and of Lord Palmerston, and indicated even the pages, chapter, and marks of the blue books in which it could be found.

I will not express here the reasons I see which lead to make such an alteration, but I strongly protest against such a manner of treating a most important point, and declare to you that I will complain of it to my Government, and point to them the necessity of an inquiry my own written opinion bears out and the public will justify.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

No. 9.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Acting Judge.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 5, 1856.

I HAVE referred to Her Majesty's Advocate-General your despatch of the 27th of September last, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between the members of the Mixed British and Spanish Court and Commander Leckie of Her Majesty's ship "Ferret," in consequence of Commander Leckie having objected to an order of the Court directing that the master and crew of the "*Fernando Po*" should be allowed to remain on board that vessel while she was under adjudication.

I have to inform you that the Queen's Advocate is of opinion that the Court was justified in what it did in this case. It appears to the Queen's Advocate that the "*Fernando Po*," upon being brought in for adjudication, was properly placed by the Court in the custody of its own officer (the Marshal); and this having been done, the Queen's Advocate considers that the captor was not legally entitled to retain possession of her, or to keep a prize-crew on board of her against the directions and order of the Court.

The Queen's Advocate thinks that Captain Leckie was borne out in objecting to the first order of the Court, which directed the Marshal to relieve the prize officer but to retain the prize crew. The Queen's Advocate, however, is of opinion that when that order was altered by the Court on the 18th of September, Commander Leckie should have thereupon withdrawn his officer and prize crew.

With regard to the Spanish crew of the "*Fernando Po*" who were on board that vessel when she was brought into port, and who had not been transferred on board any of Her Majesty's ships, the Queen's Advocate is

of opinion that the Court was justified in ordering them to be kept on board their own vessel, in the custody of the Marshal and shipkeepers, until the proceedings against the ship were terminated; because it is the Court, and not the captor, which is responsible for, and entitled to, the custody of the ship, and of the crew actually on board of her, *pendente lite*.

The Queen's Advocate observes that in a British harbour, and with an adequate force at hand, there does not appear to have been any serious risk of a rescue or of an escape; and he remarks that all such risks might easily be obviated by the simple expedient of removing the sails, boats, and rudder of the vessel.

The Queen's Advocate expresses his opinion, in which I entirely concur, that Captain Leckie's correspondence with the Court was throughout temperate and respectful; and as that officer's letter to his own proctor, of the 19th of September, was not addressed to the Court, and was probably not intended for its perusal, it is to be regretted that, under these circumstances, the Court should have used the expressions with regard to that letter which are contained in the letter which you and your Spanish colleague addressed to Captain Leckie on the 22nd of September.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 10.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 21, 1856.)

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 22, 1855.

REFERRING to my despatch of the 9th ultimo, reporting the restoration of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" on the 30th of October last, which vessel was given up to the master on the same day, I beg to acquaint your Lordship that, for the purpose of carrying out the judgment of the Court, she was to be refitted at the expense of the captors and claimant. The Court, on the 1st of November, appointed John Etting Taylor, Esquire, one of the Surveyors, to report on the probable cost of such refitment, which duty that officer performed on the following day, in the presence of an experienced man and of Mr. Tapril, the prize officer late in charge of the said vessel. Mr. Taylor having reported that the sum of twenty-five pounds would refit the "*Fernando Po*" for sea, the Court accordingly adopted and approved of it, in addition to the sum of two guineas to the surveyor, to be divided between the parties. At the same time the master of the "*Fernando Po*" was made acquainted with these circumstances.

Herewith I beg to inclose a copy of Mr. Taylor's report.

On the night of the 10th of November, and on the plea of cleaning her bottom, prior to receiving that portion of the cargo which had been landed from her for the purpose of ascertaining the nature of her equipment, the barque "*Fernando Po*" was beached by her crew in one of the bays of this port, where she grounded upon a rock, and received so much injury that she has been subsequently condemned as unseaworthy, and sold at public auction, together with her damaged goods, by order of the Spanish Consul, who chartered the French brig "*Alphonse*," to take the uninjured goods of the "*Fernando Po*" to her consignee, Mr. Mustiche, at Whydah, for which place she sailed on the 20th instant.

The wreck of the "*Fernando Po*" has prevented the Court from executing the judgment respecting her refitment, and the British and Spanish Judges have therefore determined that this matter should be left to the decision of the Governments of England and Spain, a copy of a Minute to that effect being herewith forwarded for your Lordship's information.

Tomas Torrens, the late master of the "*Fernando Po*," on the 22nd ultimo took his departure hence for Barcelona, *viâ* Teneriffe, in the African mail-packet "*Candace*."

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Mr. Taylor to Mr. Smith.

Sir,

Sierra Leone, November 2, 1855.

AGREEABLE to instructions received from you yesterday, by order of the Honourable the Judges of the Court of Mixed Commissions, I this day repaired on board the restored Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," taking with me a practical man, and in the presence of Mr. Tapril, the officer late in charge of said barque, minutely examined her, below and aloft and do conscientiously believe that the sum of 25*l.* sterling will place the said barque in as good a condition to proceed to sea as when she arrived here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. E. TAYLOR.

Approved, and an addition of two guineas to the surveyor.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.
CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Minute.

British and Spanish Mixed Courts of Justice.

In the case of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens, master.

WITH reference to that part of the decree of Court in the case of the restored Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," stating that the expense of refitting her for sea, as she was at the time of detention, should be divided between the captors and claimant, which refitment was ascertained by an authorised surveyor of the Court to amount to the sum of 25*l.*, it is now determined by the Judges of the said Court, that as the "*Fernando Po*" has subsequently become a wreck, and cannot therefore be refitted, this matter should be left for the decision of the two Governments of England and Spain.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.
CHEVALIER A. DE GUILLEMAR D'ARAGON.

No. 11.

*Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 8, 1856.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Return of the only case adjudicated in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure in No. 11.
31st December, 1855.

RETURN of the only Vessel adjudicated by the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice established at Sierra Leone, between the 1st July and the

Name of Vessel.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured.		Property seized.	Seizor.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total Number emancipated.	Tonnage of the Vessel.			Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	Whether property condemned has been sold or converted, and whether any part remains unsold ; and in whose hands the proceeds remain.
				Latitude.	Longitude.							Foreign, according to the Papers.	Old Admeasure- ment.	New Admeasure- ment.		
Fernando Po	Spanish	Tomas Torrens	1855 August 3	In the roadstead of Accra		Barque and cargo	Edmund Webber and Richard Henry Roe, commanding Her Britannic Majesty's ships "Dolphin" and "Minx"	1855 Oct. 30	"	"	"	250	Not ascertained		Restored, with- out damages.	

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

(Signed) WM. SMITH, Registrar.

No. 12.

*Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 8, 1856.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

HEREWITH I have the honour to transmit an abstract of the only case adjudicated in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice established in this Colony during the year 1855.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure in No. 12.

Abstract.

THE barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens, master, of the burthen of 250 tons, owned by José Vidal y Ribas, of Barcelona in Spain, at the head of a Company formed, it is stated, for the purpose of engaging in licit commerce on the coast of Africa, and with the Island of Fernando Po, left Barcelona on the 17th June, 1855, with a portion of a cargo of merchandise, and 650 empty casks, put up and in shooks, consigned to Vidal, Mustiche and Co., of Fernando Po, regularly manifested and cleared; touched at Gibraltar on the 23rd of June following, where she took *in transitu* from a floating hulk the remainder of her cargo for Fernando Po, consigned to Don Domingo Mustiche, and leaving Gibraltar on the 1st of July, proceeded on her voyage, calling in at Accra, to ascertain the state of the palm-oil trade, on the 31st, when she was detained in that roadstead by Lieutenants Webber and Roe, commanding Her Majesty's vessels "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," and sent up to Sierra Leone for adjudication.

The "*Fernando Po*" arrived here on the 2nd of September following, but the case was not admitted into Court until the 11th, when the usual proceedings accordingly commenced.

The only tangible allegation of the captors against the "*Fernando Po*," was her having an extraordinary number of water-casks on board, without the certificate required by the Treaty of 1835.

On the 19th September, 1855, a claim was filed by the master, on behalf of José Vidal y Ribas, of Barcelona, supported by an affidavit, asserting the legality of the voyage of the "*Fernando Po*."

On the 4th of October following, three more affidavits were filed on behalf of the claimant, representing that the engagement of the "*Fernando Po*" was in legitimate commerce.

This evidence was borne out afterwards by the letters of the owner and consignee, which showed that the "*Fernando Po*," together with a schooner called the "*Marianna*," belonging to the same firm, were intended for the palm-oil trade.

The case came on for hearing on the 27th of October, but was not decided until the 30th of that month, when the Court having met on that day, and it appearing to them that, although there was an excess of water-casks, without the certificate required by the 6th section of Article X of the Treaty with Spain of the 28th of June, 1835, which rendered her liable to seizure, there were not sufficient grounds for condemnation; satisfactory proof having been given that she was engaged in a legal pursuit at the time of detention, and the surveyors having found no other article of equipment on board, the Court decreed the restoration of the "*Fernando Po*," without damages, costs, and expenses, and pronounced the liberation of the crew.

The Court moreover decided that the expenses attendant upon the landing, storage, and reshipment of the cargo, together with the refitment of the vessel, should be equally divided between the captors and claimant.

(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

No. 13.

*Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 8, 1856.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no case has come before the British and Netherlands, British and Argentine, British and Uruguayan, British and Bolivian, British and Chilean, nor the British and Equatorial Mixed Courts of Justice established in this Colony for the prevention of the illicit Traffic in Slaves, during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 14.

*Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 8, 1856.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been emancipated, and consequently that none have been registered, by the Courts of Mixed Commission at this station during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

No. 15.

*Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 8, 1856.)*

My Lord,

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a Return of vessels captured for being engaged in the Slave Trade, and prosecuted in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony, between the 1st of July and the 31st of December, 1855, under the Acts 2 and 3 Vict., cap. 73, and 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. C. WESTON.

Inclosure n No. 15.

RETURN of Vessels captured on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and adjudicated by the Vice-Admiralty Court at Sierra Leone, from 1st July to 31st December, 1855.

Name of Vessel.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of seizure.	Where captured.	Property seized.	Seizor.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total Number emancipated.	Tonnage.			Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	Statute under which Sentence was passed, or prosecution instituted.	Whether the property condemned has been sold or converted, and whether any part remains unsold, and in whose hands the proceeds remain.	Remarks.
											Foreign according to the papers.	Old ad-measurement.	English. New ad-measurement.				
Unknown	None ..	Unknown	1855				1855	..	..	..	..	Under sec. 22 of 17 & 18 Vict. cap. 104. 222	..	Forfeiture.	2 & 3 Vict., cap. 73.	The hull of this vessel was broken up and entirely demolished. The materials and stores sold by public action. Proceeds paid into the military chest	Vessel fully equipped for Slave Trade. She had neither colours nor papers on board.
Unknown	None ..	Moncaniah	Dec. 9	About 2 miles to the northward of the Banana Islds.	Cance and 51 slaves	Mr. E. A. C. Macarthey, Manager of the Western District of the Colony of Sierra Leone	Dec. 19	51	..	51	..	..	..	Ditto.....	5 Geo. IV., cap. 113.	Cance and effects sold at publication. Proceeds at present in the hands of the Marshal.	These vessels were native canoes, and had neither papers nor colours. The slaves were found partially concealed by matting over the stern part of the canoes. The canoes were bound from the Sherbro for Fourciah, in the Soosoo country.
Unknown	None ..	Banah Mordoo...	Dec. 9	Ditto	Cance and 35 slaves	Ditto	Dec. 19	35	..	35	..	..	..	Ditto.....	Ditto	Ditto	
Total								86	..	86	..	..	..	Ditto.....	Ditto	Ditto	

(Signed) GEO. W. NICOL, Acting Registrar.

No. 16.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 8.)

(Extract.)

Sierra Leone, January 12, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, a Return of the only case adjudicated in the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice established in this Colony during the year ended the 31st ultimo.

No case has come before any of the other Mixed Courts during the past year, nor have any slaves been emancipated.

The total number of cases prosecuted before the Mixed Commissions since their establishment here in June 1819 up to the end of last December, is 531, whereof 503 were cases of condemnation, and 28 were either withdrawn, dismissed, or restored to the claimants.

In the same period, there have been emancipated by these Mixed Courts 64,615 slaves, of whom 56,935 have been registered here.

In the past year two vessels, without either flag or papers, were adjudicated and condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony, under the Act 2 & 3 Vict., cap. 73. One was taken at Lagos, on the 30th of August, 1854, by Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," Commander Miller; and the other, in the Rio Pongas, by Her Majesty's sloop "Ferret," Commander Leckie. Both these cases I have had the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my despatches under date of the 23rd January and 18th July, 1855.

In the same period, three native canoes, captured in British waters, were condemned under the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, and the slaves found on board, to the number of 105, emancipated.

Mr. E. A. Macartney, Manager of the Western District of this Colony, captured these three canoes; one on the 27th of January, 1855, within a mile of Cape Sierra Leone, on her way, it is said, to the rivers north of this Colony, and the other two on the 9th of December following, about two miles to the north of the Banana Islands, proceeding from the Sherbro to the Fouricariah, in the Soosoo country. The slaves in the two last (including about 40 children), mostly in a state of nudity, were found shackled, and partially concealed by matting placed over the stern parts of the canoes, which were so crowded as to prevent the possibility of their position being changed. These canoes carried crews of about 10 men each, who were armed with guns, bows and arrows, and cutlasses.

Besides the foregoing captures, condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court, on the 6th of July last, a Mandingo canoe, containing 15 adults and 29 children, having been wrecked off Goderich, six miles from Freetown, on her passage from the Sherbro to the Bullom country, the slaves were concealed in the bush, to escape observation until assistance could be rendered by the arrival of another canoe; but, on being fortunately observed by the constables of that place, they were brought to Freetown, and afterwards sent to the Liberated African Department at Kissy.

From the capture of these canoes, it will be seen that the same system of Slave Traffic by their means which I had the honour of noticing in my report of last year, between the neighbouring countries north and south of this Colony, still continues to be carried on to a large extent, as these now taken can only form a small proportion of those escaping with cargoes.

The only vessel seized to the north of this Colony during last year was the "Ferret's" prize before referred to (evidently Spanish property), taken in the Rio Pongas in June last, which river seems to keep up its reputation for Slave Trade; it being reported, from reliable information, that, at the present time, there is a cargo of Africans ready for shipment, and only waiting for a vessel to convey them away. This, I trust, will not be accomplished, one of Her Majesty's cruisers being always stationed off that locality to watch the ingress or egress of any slaver.

Your Lordship will doubtless be glad to learn that a Church Missionary station has been recently established in the Pongas under favourable

circumstances, and that the Chiefs there are most anxious to have their children educated. The missionaries were well received by them, and, as the minds of these natives become enlightened, it is to be hoped they will turn their attention more to legitimate commerce, which at present is almost at a stand-still, owing, in part, to the internal wars of the country. In the neighbouring rivers, Fouricariah and Malicoura, legitimate trade is increasing greatly every year.

Further north, amongst the Bissagos, or Bejuga Islands, it was reported to Commodore Adams, when cruising off those islands in the early part of last year, that two Portuguese vessels escaped with cargoes of slaves. Her Majesty's brig "Britomart" was afterwards ordered to cruize north as far as Cape Roxo, and to visit the Bissagos; but nothing has resulted from it.

To the south of the Colony, an American schooner called the "*Alexander Mitchell*," is said to have lately shipped and carried off upwards of 300 negroes between Cape Palmas and the Bights, after leaving Monrovia, where she had called in with a cargo of American produce.

There was a rumour of Don Crespo having returned to his old slave-haunts of Gallinas and its neighbourhood last April, but it has not been confirmed by any subsequent information.

I have not heard of any shipment of slaves from the Bights last year, nor does there appear to be any sign of activity in the Slave Trade in that part; but, on the contrary, I am informed that the shipment of palm-oil is increasing to a great extent. The Chief Kosoko having strictly observed his Treaty engagements with England since he entered into the same on the 28th of September, 1854, will no doubt tend to give an impetus to legal commerce at Lagos.

The Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," which was adjudicated by the Mixed Court last year, was destined, in conjunction with a schooner named "*Mariana*," belonging to the firm of José Vidal y Ribas, of Barcelona, for the palm-oil trade on the coast of Africa. The latter vessel, the "*Mariana*," is still on the coast, in the neighbourhood of Lagos. The last account of her was, that she was going down to Palma, a port claimed by Kosoko and his Chiefs as their port of trade in the Bight of Benin, in virtue of the Treaty entered into, where the palm trade is said to be in active operation.

P.S.—*January 16.* Since writing the above despatch, a capture of three native canoes, containing 119 slaves, was effected on the 14th instant in a creek near Pappell, in the Sierra Leone river, on their way overland from the Ribbie river, Sherbro country, to Wonkafong, in the Soosoo country, which canoes, together with their cargoes, are being prosecuted in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony under the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113.

Inclosure in No. 16.

A RETURN of the only case adjudicated in the Mixed Courts of Justice established at Sierra Leone, between the 1st January and 31st December, 1855.

Number of Cases Prosecuted between June 1819, and December 31, 1854.	Number of Vessels Liberated, or Dismissed, between June 1819, and December 31, 1855.	Number of Cases Adjudged between January 1, and December 31, 1855.	Nation.	Name of Vessel.	Class.	Whether Condemned or Liberated.	Number of Slaves on board at the time of Capture.	Number of Slaves Emancipated.	Number of Slaves Emancipated and Registered.	Remarks.
530	28									
531	29	1	Spanish ..	Fernando Po ..	Barque ..	Liberated. ..	..	..	..	No slaves have been emancipated and registered by the Mixed Courts during this year. The total number of slaves emancipated and registered here up to December 31, 1847, was 56,935.

Sierra Leone, December 31, 1855.

(Signed)

WM. SMITH, Registrar.

No. 17.

Her Majesty's Acting Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

(Extract.)

Sierra Leone, February 23, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, that on the 29th ultimo, Lieutenant Walter J. W. Grubbe, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Teazer," fell in with and seized a schooner called "Catherine" with a native crew of three persons, off the Rio Pongas, not entitled to any nationality, under the Act 2 & 3 Vict., cap 73, on the ground of her being engaged in the Slave Trade, and having on board at the time of detention, two men and two boys, who were supposed to have been slaves.

On inquiring into the case of this vessel, on her arrival here on the 2nd instant, under the charge of Mr. Piper, second master of the "Teazer," it was ascertained that the two men and two boys supposed to be slaves, were free persons in the receipt of monthly wages, and that the vessel was on her way to the Island of Matacong from the Rio Pongas on legal trade, and thence intended to proceed to this Colony to obtain proper papers.

Under these circumstances, therefore, the vessel in question was given up on the 6th of February to the captain by the prize officer, Mr. Piper, without coming into Court; a receipt on behalf of the captain, for the vessel and everything on board, as at the time of detention, having been obtained from the Spanish Consul, the Chevalier A. de Guillemar d'Aragon, who had previously protested against the detention of the "Catherine."

No. 18.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, March 24, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I have received a letter from Señor Gonzalez, the Spanish Minister at this Court, in which he informs me that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty has appointed Don Gumerzindo Ogea, the Spanish Vice-Consul at Sierra Leone, to be the Spanish Arbitrator in the Mixed Commission established in that Colony.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

HAVANA.

No. 19.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 9, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that a slaver being said to be expected at Sierra Morena, on the north coast of this island, to the east of Cardenas, Her Majesty's sloop "Arab" left this port on the 27th ultimo, to look out for her.

Another slaver was said to be expected on the south coast of this island, somewhere about Ensenada de los Cochinos, and the "Espiegle" sailed from this port on the 29th ultimo, with the intention, I believe, of looking out for it.

With the present active measures taken to intercept any attempt at foreign invasion of this island, it would be extremely difficult to believe in the possibility of a landing of Bozal negroes being effected on any part of the coasts without the cognizance of the local authorities. I have, however, heard to-day, from Mr. Crawford, that a landing of Bozal negroes is reported to have taken place lately at Cabañas, on the north coast, a little to the west of this port; and that he has written to the Captain-General, to inquire into the truth of the report.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 20.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 12, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to state that I have received a letter from the Marquis de Esteva, the Spanish Judge of the Mixed Court, announcing to me that he was under the necessity of absenting himself from the Havana on account of his health, and that the Spanish Arbitrator, Brigadier Illas, would, during his absence, act as Judge. The letter was dated the 24th of March, but it was not till to-day that I received it, or I should have reported the circumstance sooner.

The arrangement whereby the Arbitrator, in the absence of the Judge, acts for the latter, is in conformity with the third section of the ninth Article of Annex B to the Treaty of 1835.

I have been informed by the Assistant-Secretary—who, being the son of the Secretary, and a young lawyer of considerable intelligence, was, on account of the health of his father (the Secretary), sworn before the Mixed Court, on the 5th of July, 1854, to act as occasion may require, without salary, in the place of his father, and who is at present acting in that capacity—that the absence of the Marquis of Esteva would probably be extended into next year, and perhaps much longer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 21.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 7.)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 12, 1855.

IN my despatch of the 9th ultimo, I had the honour to state that I had just been informed by Mr. Crawford that he had heard of the landing of some Bozal negroes having taken place lately at Cabañas, a place to the west of Havana, and very near Bahia Honda. On his making known the fact of this landing of (as he had been informed) 600 negroes to the Captain-General, the Alcalde Mayor, Don Vicente de la Torre de Trasierra, was sent from Havana to Bahia Honda to inquire into the truth of Mr. Crawford's report, and the result was that the report was said to have no foundation except on the fact of a considerable number of slaves having been moved from one estate to another, which might have misled Mr. Crawford's informant.

Mr. Crawford, however, persisted in asserting his belief in the original report; and at length the Government here discovered that 350 negroes had been landed, of whom 61 were seized (Mr. Crawford informs me) by Don José de Lopez Rangel, the Commissioner.

I heard accidentally about a week ago that 175 negroes had lately been landed on some part of this island, but I was unable to get any further particulars. Having heard, however, subsequently, a rumour which appeared to be believed by many persons, though positively denied by others, that more than one landing had lately taken place, I mentioned what I had heard to Mr. Crawford, who told me that the number of landings he had heard of and reported to the Government here, was two, and that they were both said to have taken place at Bahia Honda.

Information has been received from the Spanish Consul at Key West by the Captain-General, who communicated it to Mr. Crawford, that a deserted slave-vessel was lately found by wreckers at Key West. There is no very clear evidence as to where her cargo had been landed. It is supposed the cargo composed some, at least, of those recently landed near Bahia Honda. The vessel is said to have been recognised as a well-known American vessel by certain citizens at Key West. She had the name "*Horatio*," New York, painted on her stern; the name had been painted over, but had become legible by portions of the last coat of paint having blistered and come off. Her Majesty's brig "*Arab*," Commander Ogle, has been within the last few days to Key West; and Captain Ogle, who has visited the vessel, says that she was a large brig, had drifted with some sail set, and contained scarcely any papers, but that a portion of her log was marked in pencil on the bulk-head of the cabin, showing her position on a particular day. I have seen a letter from Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at Key West to Mr. Crawford, which he will of course communicate to your Lordship. It mentions the portion of log above referred to, as written in pencil, recording the brig to have been on the 21st of March last in latitude 3° north; but it appears to contain nothing of very great importance beyond the well-established fact of the brig having been used for Slave Trade. I am informed that some persons holding subordinate offices have been arrested by the Captain-General on account of the successful landing of negroes above-mentioned.

Mr. Crawford will no doubt communicate to your Lordship a copy of a memorandum with which he a short time ago furnished Captain Thomson, of Her Majesty's ship "*Vestal*," and which he communicated also to me, respecting steps which had been taken in the course of last month by the Cuban Government, in consequence of his having denounced three vessels, believed to be intended for Slave Trade, namely, the brig "*Casualidad*," which was said to have left this port to fit out at a place called Puerto del Padre to the east of Nuevitas; the schooner "*Merced*," said to have left Batabano for a place a short distance to the east of that town called Playa del Rosario; and a schooner called "*Genobaba*," which was said to be in this harbour, and under the surveillance of the Captain of the Port. A vessel was a short time ago pointed out to me in this harbour as

under suspicion of being intended for Slave Trade ; that vessel, however, was a brig. I have heard, also, a rumour partially corroborating Mr. Crawford's report of a vessel having recently left this port for the purpose of Slave Trade. Mr. Crawford informed me on the 5th instant, that the "*Genobaba*" was still in this harbour.

P. S.—I am informed that the principal, if not the only, person, on whose account the recently-landed negroes came, was a certain Don Juan Aguirre. He owns a sugar estate near Cabañas called San Agostin, is very rich, and has a great number of slaves, but continues to engage himself in the importation of negroes for sale, and obtained, without difficulty, 500 dollars for each of the many whom he sold from the "*Grey Eagle*" importation: the American Captain of the "*Grey Eagle*" visited, I am informed, after his arrival, both the said Aguirre, and Don Lorenzo Pedro, whom I mentioned in my despatch of the 9th of August last. The father of Don Juan Aguirre is living, and boasts of having been formerly a slave captain.

No. 22.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 7.)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 12, 1855.

WITH reference to the decree of the Mixed Court of the 27th of January last suggesting that steps should be taken for the purpose of obtaining, through the Spanish Minister at Washington, any proofs which the American Government could afford as to the nationality of the "*Grey Eagle*" at the time of her seizure; I have the honour to state, that the Captain-General was requested by the Mixed Court to write to the Spanish Minister on the subject, and that, on the 2nd instant, the Mixed Court received from the Captain-General a letter dated the 28th ultimo, inclosing certain documents which had been received from the American Government in consequence of the request that had been made.

The documents which were inclosed were all in English, thirteen in number, and some of them long; and they have been some days, and still are, in the hands of a Government interpreter, who is charged with the translating of them.

A meeting of the Court is to be held as soon as they are translated, when, I trust, this long-pending case will be decided.

When that is done, I shall have the honour of acquainting your Lordship fully with all the particulars of the case.

No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1855.

WITH reference to the postscript to your despatch of the 12th of May,* I have to instruct you to communicate to Mr. Crawford whatever information you may have obtained respecting the alleged Slave Trade transactions of Don Juan Aguirre, in order that Mr. Crawford may call the attention of the Captain-General to that person's proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 24.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 23.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 21, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th ultimo, reporting the absence, on account of ill-health, of the Spanish Judge of the Mixed Court, I have the honour now to state that he has resigned his office.

On the 19th instant I received two letters, dated the day before; one from his Excellency the Marquis de Esteva, the late Judge, informing me that the Captain-General had accepted his resignation as long ago as the 5th of April last; the other from Brigadier Don Francisco Illas, upon whom, as Spanish Arbitrator, the duties of Acting Spanish Judge had already, under the Treaty, devolved; informing me that, on the said 5th of April, the Captain-General had appointed him Acting Judge, and the Government Secretary Acting Arbitrator, until the pleasure of Her Catholic Majesty on the subject should be known. The name of the Government Secretary is Don Juan Sunyé.

A letter announcing these changes, and addressed by the Captain-General to the Mixed Court, was brought to me at the same time as the other letters above mentioned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 25.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 18, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th ultimo,* I have the honour to report that, on the 26th ultimo, the Mixed Court decided that the case of the "*Grey Eagle*" did not properly come within that Court's jurisdiction.

I inclose a copy of Commander Hancock's declaration, which however, as the date will show, was not received until after the decision which the Court came to at its second sitting, on the 11th of July (and which decision was founded on the papers already before the Court), that Captain Hancock was really the captor of the vessel. This declaration was, on Captain Hancock's return to Havana after some months' absence, confirmed by him on oath in presence of the Mixed Court on the 26th of October, he stating at the same time that he had nothing to add to it.

I inclose also an abstract of the evidence contained in the papers which, in consequence of a request made by the Mixed Court on the termination of its first sitting, the Captain-General communicated to the Court, and which papers, being a report of the proceedings of the local authorities of Bahia Honda about the time of the capture, formed, together with the previous correspondence above referred to, the ground of the Court's decision, at its second sitting, as to who was the captor.

The rest of the inclosures in my present despatch consist of copies of some of the documents which were lately received, through the Captain-General, from the American Government, and a translation of the final decision of the Mixed Court thereupon.

In August last the Mixed Court applied to the American Consulate at Havana for any information which could be obtained showing to what nation the "*Grey Eagle*" belonged at the time of her capture; and the Court subsequently received, in answer to its application, certain information, which, however, it did not consider satisfactory. That information was contained in a letter from the American Consulate, dated the 15th of

* No. 22.

September last, and inclosing certain papers, received from the Collector of Customs at Philadelphia, which appeared to give the history of the "*Grey Eagle*" from the time of her being built at Robbinston, in the State of Maine, in 1852, down to the 25th of March, 1854. Among those papers were two which were described as authenticated copies, issued at the Custom-house at New York; the one, of the bill of sale of the vessel, dated the 24th of March, 1854, by George Marsden, of New York, to Samuel S. Gray, of the same city; the other, of the register of the vessel at New York, dated the 25th of March, 1854, in which register the said Gray was described as both owner and master of the said vessel.

It was in consequence of none of the papers containing any mention of Darnaud (of whose having been master of the vessel when she last left New York there was reason to believe that some documentary proof existed) that the Mixed Court was not satisfied that those papers contained the latest information which could be procured respecting the ownership of the vessel; and that, after having applied to the American Consulate without success for further papers, it requested the Captain-General to obtain, if possible, from the American Government at Washington, the information which was required, and thus at length obtained the papers, of some of which I have the honour now to inclose copies.

I have not thought it necessary to trouble your Lordship with any more of the said papers than such as convey any information respecting the vessel from the time of her apparent sale by Marsden to her apparently latest owner, Gray. But I have now to observe that, among the papers of which I herewith send copies, are two (Inclosures 6 and 8) apparently taken, with a variation in point of accuracy, from the same original documents as were the two papers which I have described as having been received through the American Consulate in September last, namely, the bill of sale dated the 24th of March, 1854, and the register, dated the 25th.

Of these two documents, the copies received by the Mixed Court have on each occasion been formally authenticated. The two authenticated copies of the bill of sale agree with one another; but those of the register differ on the very point on which the Mixed Court was not satisfied on the former occasion, namely, the name of the master of the "*Grey Eagle*."

The copy which I herewith inclose, taken from that which was recently received from the Government at Washington, gives the name of Darnaud as that of the master of the vessel on the 25th of March, 1854, the day on which, according to Mr. Van Dyke's letter (Inclosure 3), she sailed from New York.

The evidence altogether obtained by the Mixed Court appeared to me to contain sufficiently established formal proof of the vessel having been, down to the date to which such proof could be obtained, American property. My Spanish colleague, however, Brigadier Illas, the Acting Spanish Judge, attached more importance to the supposition of many (referred to in Mr. Van Dyke's letter, in support of which supposition, however, Mr. Van Dyke adds, there is not a particle of testimony), that the name of Samuel S. Gray was "a fictitious name representing in reality Don Riveiro," and that the vessel had thus, in fact, before leaving New York, become the property of a Spanish subject. On the ground of this mere supposition, my Spanish colleague gave it as his opinion that the vessel ought to be condemned at once; as he considered that, the vessel having been proved to be Spanish property, the evidence already before the Court of her employment in Slave Trade was quite sufficient to condemn her. I contended that the evidence before the Court as to her nationality proved her to be American, and that, until she were satisfactorily proved to be either British or Spanish, the Mixed Court could take no cognizance of the illegality of her employment, and must, therefore, give her up. I was asked, to whom ought she to be given up? I confess I felt much embarrassment in having to answer that question. Had I been left entirely to my own judgment in the case, I should have said—to the captor; but, bearing in mind the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 21th of November last, I said—either to the captor, whose prize the Mixed Court had already pronounced the vessel to be (and to whom I considered that, in default of any owner appearing, a vessel ought, if legally captured, but liberated for want of

evidence against her, to be delivered up), or to the Spanish authorities, because the capture had been made in Spanish waters. My Spanish colleague still persisted in declaring his opinion that the vessel ought to be condemned at once by the Mixed Court; but he said, at length, that, rather than prolong discussion, he would agree to the vessel being given up, but given up only to the Captain-General. To this I replied that, he having so far yielded to my opinion in favour of giving her up, I would at once consent to what he proposed, namely, that she should be given up to the Captain-General. I said this, considering that I was thus obeying as literally as I could the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch already alluded to.

The decision of the Mixed Court for giving up the vessel to the Captain-General appears to me inconsistent with its former decision, pronouncing the capture to have been Captain Hancock's; but if, as your Lordship has decided, the Court came to a wrong decision on the former occasion, it must necessarily act inconsistently with that former decision to set itself right in the end. No point of the Treaty seems to be affected by the giving up of this vessel, under the existing circumstances, to the Captain-General instead of Captain Hancock. But I venture to submit my opinion, with a view to being set right if I am mistaken, that, supposing it to have been the case that the Mixed Court had been right in pronouncing the prize, in the first place, to be Captain Hancock's, he being legally the captor, and that the Mixed Court had subsequently, as in the present case, discovered that the prize ought not to come under its jurisdiction, and for that reason alone dismissed the case, the proper course for the Mixed Court would then have been to restore the vessel, whether the owner were known or not, to the said captor, who might then have it in his power to take the vessel before some Court competent to try the case.

With reference to the report of the proceedings instituted by the local authorities at Bahia Honda about the time of the capture, I have to observe that it was very long, and consisted in a very large degree of assertions on the part of the persons examined by the authorities, of total ignorance of everything relating to the subject of inquiry; and that it appeared to me that a very short abstract of it (Inclosure 2), in addition to the papers which I transmitted to your Lordship last year, would be sufficient; but I have, nevertheless, thought it right, in order to show the value of some of the testimony thus obtained, to give in this abstract, at full length, with the exception of the questions generally, the report of the examination of the two men who were said to have been sent on board the vessel to guard her, and on the ground of whose having been on board; and not on that of the vessel having been found within the three miles' limit from the coast, the Spanish authorities claimed the vessel. These two men, not on oath, both assert that they went together on board; and one of them says that there was "nothing inside," while the other appears to have avoided answering the question as to the contents of the vessel. Captain Hancock's declaration respecting the state of the vessel "and her cargo" would alone show that at least the first-mentioned of these men could not have been on board; and an inventory taken, by order of the Mixed Court, of the contents of the vessel, showed there to be, besides various other articles, a considerable quantity of rice, of which 59 barrels, together with a small quantity of maize, were in October, after three months' exposure to waste and damage, sold for 578 dollars 5½ reals.

Inclosure 1 in No. 25.

Declaration.

I, THE Undersigned, George Hancock, holding the rank of Commander in Her Britannic Majesty's Navy, and commanding Her Majesty's brig "Espiègle," duly authorized by the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, dated the 28th of June, 1835, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, do hereby declare that on the 27th day of June, 1854, being in latitude 23° 3' north, and longitude 83° 8' west, of Greenwich, I seized the brig "*Grey Eagle*," of Philadelphia (without colours, crew, or papers), for having violated the said Treaty, and I further declare that the vessel had on board at the time of seizure no master, crew, or passengers, and no slaves.

And I do hereby declare that I found this vessel and her cargo in the following state:—

Anchored within a reef near the shore, about four miles to the eastward of Bahia Honda, deserted by her crew, having very recently landed a cargo of negroes, in charge of no authorities, having no flag or papers to indicate her nationality, but containing a complete slave-deck, scuttles cut in various parts of her upper deck for giving air below, large coppers and cooking galley, several tubs, such as are always used for containing the excrements of the slaves, many of them still full, several casks of flour, farina, and rice, also a proportion of water, though most of the water-casks were empty; and as she was under no sort of custody, and quite in a fit state to put to sea on the return of her crew, who I have reason to believe were lurking in the bushes near the beach, I seized her and brought her out alongside my ship, and she is now delivered over to the Mixed Commission Court at Havana for adjudication.

Given under my hand on board Her Majesty's sloop "Espiègle," at Port Royal, this 22nd day of July, 1854.

(Signed) G. HANCOCK, *Commander*.

Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

Abstract of a Report from the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda.

THIS Report, of a part of which the two letters from the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda to the Captain-General of the 27th of June, 1854, form a short epitome, contains the declarations of the Lieutenant-Governor, Don José de Pavia y Padilla, of Don José de Lopez Rangel, the Captain-General's Commissioner for the pursuit of Bozal negroes, and of Don Luis Castañedo, Alcalde de Mar at Ortigosa, stating generally the circumstances under which the discovery had been made of a landing of Bozal negroes, and the measures which they, the inferior local authorities and others whose assistance was engaged, took in consequence of that discovery, and include also the result of the examination of a large number of persons residing in the neighbourhood in various capacities, most of whom were unable to sign their names, and amongst those examined were also two of the Bozal negroes who were said to have been brought in the brig; these two were examined through an interpreter, a negro of the Lucumi tribe, who could not write, and who was a slave of Don Luis Castañedo, on whose estate all the captured negroes had been deposited. The evidence of these two negroes, from their extreme ignorance, appears to have been of but little importance, from their ignorance of counting; they could give no idea of the number of their companions, except that they were many; both said that some of the negroes, one of them said many, died on the passage. They knew nothing of the names of the vessel, master, or crew. One of them, however, said that the voyage from Africa had occupied two months and a-half. The examination of these two negroes took place on the 28th of June, and they both then said they had arrived four days ago; and in this respect their testimony differed from that given by the authorities and other residents in the legal proceedings, that the vessel arrived on the evening of the 26th.

On the 28th of June the two men who had been the day before ordered to keep guard on board the vessel were ordered under arrest, for having deserted their post; they were then immediately examined. The following is taken from the report of their examination:—

In the Sitio de las Cuebas on the 28th of June, 1854, appeared Don Pedro Suarez, native of Cano, resident at San Diego de Nuñez, sugar-master, married, 35 years of age, to whom was explained the obligation he was under to tell the truth: was on guard at Ortigosa on the 27th of June, jointly with Don José Hernandez, with instructions to watch the mouth of the creek and to guard the captured brig, which he did, being on board the said vessel, as the Lieutenant-Governor had verbally ordered him; he and his companion were on board the brig till 3 yesterday afternoon, when a foreign vessel appeared which fired a gun, and afterwards some armed men approached the brig, which being seen by declarant and his companion, they both, thinking those people intended to murder them, departed, in order to go and give information to the Captain (of the district); no one remained in the vessel, but he left it in charge of his companion, Don José Hernandez, while he went to give information to the authorities of his district, and he returned again with the Captain of San Diego to the vessel, where they were refused admittance by the English crew which was in the captured vessel. On being questioned respecting the contents of the vessel, her class, and size, he said there was nothing inside, and that he understood nothing of the class to which the vessel belonged, but that she was a large vessel. While he was away his companion, Don José Hernandez, remained at the point at the entrance of the creek which was near the vessel, from whence he could see and take care of the vessel. He gave his word to the truth of his declaration, but did not sign it, because he could not.

At the same Sitio de las Cuebas, June 28, appeared Don José Hernandez, native of and resident at San Diego de Nuñez, bachelor, 25 years of age, labourer, to whom was explained the obligation he was under to tell the truth: was, conjointly with Don Pedro Suarez, on guard at Ortigosa on the 27th instant, and was taking care of a brig which there was in the said Ortigosa; that was all the guard was instructed to do. On being questioned as to the duration of the watch, the reason for leaving the vessel, the contents of the vessel, and whom they left in charge of the vessel when they withdrew themselves from her, he said they remained till 3 p.m. yesterday, when a foreign vessel appeared, which fired a gun, and they saw she sent a boat with some men; wherefore, fearing the said foreigners would kill them, they left the vessel, Suarez to give information to the Captain of the district, and declarant to keep watch over the vessel from the shore. He gave his word for the truth of his declaration, which he did not sign, because he could not.

Immediately on receiving these two declarations, the Lieutenant-Governor and the Assessor decreed the liberation of the two declarants from arrest, under which they had been placed for deserting their post.

No other person gave any information of importance which has not already been communicated.

Search was reported to have been continued till July 3 in the neighbourhood, for any of the crew of the vessel, or for any more of the negroes, without success. Twelve of the neighbouring sugar estates or other private lands were reported to have been examined in the course of the search on the 29th and 30th of June, and the negroes on each counted to the number altogether of 2,89

they were all pronounced to be either Creoles (born in the island), or Ladinos (not of recent introduction).

The 205 negroes who had been seized and deposited with Don Luis Castañedo were said to include many of either sex and of various ages. On the 30th of June, 2 of them were reported dead.

On the 3rd of July arrangements were made for sending the captured negroes to Havana; the proceedings were forwarded to the Fiscal of the Real Audiencia Pretorial, and instructions had been received from the Captain-General to continue the search on the various estates.

Inclosure 3 in No. 25.

Mr. Van Dyke to Mr. Guthrie.

*Office of the Attorney of the United States for the Eastern
District of Pennsylvania, 140, Walnut Street,
Philadelphia, March 21, 1855.*

Sir,

IN compliance with the request contained in your communication of the 18th instant, I herewith inclose a copy of all the notes or memorandums of testimony in my possession, relating to the points inquired of concerning the brig "*Grey Eagle*," in the letter of Her Catholic Majesty the Queen of Spain's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington, dated March 8, 1854. These memoranda do not of course include the evidence in my possession, relating to the commission of the body of the crime, since I understand the Spanish Minister merely desired that which related to "the nationality of the vessel, to the name and nationality of the captain, master, or owner, the destination of the cargo, and the port from whence she sailed."

The only evidence which I have been enabled to discover as to the nationality of the vessel will be found in her title-papers, which may be stated in brief thus:—

1852.—The brig "*Grey Eagle*," built by Zachariah Cutter for Seth G. Low, of Robbinston, in the State of Maine, certified in the enrolment to be a citizen of the United States.

November 20, 1852.—Enrolment of said vessel at the port of Passamaquaddy, Maine, in the name of Seth G. Low, states that William H. McCardy, a citizen of the United States, is master.

January 17, 1853.—Bill of sale to Thomas G. Hollingsworth, of Philadelphia, a citizen of the United States.

Note.—T. G. Hollingsworth states that he purchased said vessel for account of himself and other gentlemen, for the purpose of being used in the pearl-fishery.

That on September 1, 1853, she sailed for La Guayra, and on December 21, 1853, returned to Philadelphia.

March 4, 1854.—Bill of sale. Thomas G. Hollingsworth to George Marsden, of the city of New York.

Note.—Since the arrest of J. G. Darnaud, the master of said vessel, repeated efforts have been made to find Marsden, but without success. There are several witnesses, however, who have been discovered, and who, in the case of the United States *v.* the "*Massachusetts*," now pending in the Southern District of New York, have testified that Marsden was a native-born citizen of the United States.

John A. Machado, who is mentioned by the witnesses in the accompanying abstract of testimony, says (not yet under oath), that he did advance money to George Marsden for and on account of the brig "*Grey Eagle*," but not for his own account. That such advances were made in pursuance of letters of credit deposited with him, in favour of said Marsden, by a citizen of Spain, who, at the time of the date of the letters, was in Cuba, by the name of Don Leoneio Riveiro. The bills of credit were from Havana, on Boston and New York.

This Don Leoneio Riveiro was, at the time of these advances and payments, in the city of New York; and at the time Machado made the statement to me, said Riveiro had left for Spain.

There was on board the vessel, on her voyage to Africa and to Cuba, as testified by the witnesses now in prison, two masters; one was called the French, the other the Spanish, captain. The person now awaiting trial is the French captain.

One witness says he has some recollection of hearing the Spanish captain called Don Riveiro.

March 24, 1854.—Bill of sale. George Marsden to Samuel S. Gray, of New York, alleged to be a citizen of the United States.

Note.—The utmost vigilance and care on my part, and on the part of our Marshal at Philadelphia, assisted by the officers of the United States at New York, have been unavailing in finding who this Samuel S. Gray is. It is by many supposed to be a fictitious name, representing in reality Don Riveiro; but of this we have not a particle of testimony.

The vessel sailed from New York on the 25th March, 1854. The crew were under the impression that they were destined to St. Thomas, which was not corrected until they had been out some ten days, when they were told by both Spaniard and French captain that they were going to the coast of Africa. It was not until after they arrived at Africa that the Spaniard made himself known as captain; up to that time he had been considered as a passenger.

As to the birthplace or nationality of J. G. Darnaud, all that has been discovered is contained in the statement of John B. Stephens, who is the keeper of a sailor's boarding-house in Philadelphia. It was at Stephens's house that Darnaud was arrested. He says he has known Darnaud for about eleven or twelve years. That his real name is Samuel Nicholas. That he had shipped him for three voyages—first time was in topsail schooner from Philadelphia, about eleven years ago; the second time he shipped him was in a screw steamer from Philadelphia to Boston, and which vessel was there sold to the Emperor of Saint Domingo. The third time, he shipped him on board a hermaphrodite brig, which sailed from Philadelphia to Saint Juan del Norte with coal, about four or five years ago. When Darnaud first came to Philadelphia he came from Baltimore, and he was about fourteen years old.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAMES C. VAN DYKE,
United States' Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Inclosure 4 in No. 25.

Memorandum of Testimony in the case of the United States v. J. G. Darnaud, Master of the "Grey Eagle."

GOYN DE FOREST being duly sworn, doth depose and say:—

I am a partner in the firm of John Fowler and Talmage. The firm does business at No. 60, Water Street, New York. I reside at No. 21, Sackett Street, Brooklyn. Our business is rice-dealers. We sold some rice in March 1854, which we supposed went on board the "*Grey Eagle*." We sent the order from the store to the mills. The mill is on the corner of Jefferson and South Streets, New York. And to the best of my knowledge and belief the rice was sent to the "*Grey Eagle*." The clerk of the mills, Mr. Van Valkenburg, told me that they had delivered the rice to the drayman to take to the "*Grey Eagle*," and that drayman had brought back the receipts, which was sent to the store. They were sent from the store, with bills for Mr. George Marsden, or he called and got them.

Mr. George Marsden ordered the rice on the 20th March, 1854. He ordered 126 lbs.* Each bbb. contained about 230 lbs. net. The whole cost was \$1,263 $\frac{56}{100}$, at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. It was delivered within a few days after it was ordered. Mr. Marsden ordered the rice of me. Mr. Fowler was present at the time. We were paid, I think, about ten days after the order was left. Mr. Marsden paid me, but he gave me Mr. J. A. Mechado's cheque on a bank I can't recollect. I think the check was drawn to the order of George Marsden.

Mechado had bought rice of us before. We knew him, and he brought Marsden, and introduced him to us, and told us Marsden wanted some rice. Some time after the order, but before our being paid, we called on Mechado to inquire about Marsden's responsibility. He told us he was good. I think Mechado told me that if Marsden did not pay for the rice he would. We called at Mechado's office for payment. Marsden was there. His office is in Pearl Street, near Wall. I went in. Mr. Marsden was present. Several foreigners or Spaniards were present. Mechado was not present when I went in. I asked Mr. Marsden for the amount of our bill; and he replied, "Wait till Mr. Mechado comes in." I waited about ten or fifteen minutes. Mechado came in. Mr. Marsden said to him, I was after that cheque, and I wanted the money. Mechado wanted to put me off for a day or two, but finally gave me the cheque. I receipted the bill, and handed it to Marsden.

I have known Mechado about two years. Either Mr. Mechado handed me the cheque himself, or he handed it to Marsden, and Marsden handed it to me. I cannot state positively which, but I think Marsden handed it to me.

(Signed) G. T. DE FORREST.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 22nd day of September, 1854.

(Signed) CHAS. HEAZLETT, *United States' Commissioner.*

Thomas Hatcher being duly sworn, says:—

I am a rigger, residing in Williamsburg. My place of business is 246, Fourth Street; residence, 274, South Fifth, Williamsburg. I have lived there four years coming next October.

I recollect a brig called the "*Grey Eagle*," sailed from New York in March last. I cannot say who the captain was. I might know him if I saw him. He was a short man, dark complexion. When I first took charge to rig her he came on board as mate. I never heard what his name was. I heard that he sailed in some of the New York packets between New Orleans and that port. He was in one of Mr. Wilson's packets. The captain said so to me; he spoke to me in broken English. I thought he was a Spaniard, but I never asked him where he came from.

The mate was a foreigner. He talked Spanish, and I heard him talk French. That was the first mate. He was a little fellow too. They seemed to be acquainted with one another. I forget what vessel the captain said he sailed in. He said it was a month or two before he sailed in the "*Grey Eagle*."

Mr. Nelson is a merchant near Ruling Slip. He owns the line between New York and New Orleans. I think he said the ship was the "*Silas Holmes*."

I used to call him her mate, and when I heard he was going captain, and then I called him captain. Now that I hear his name I think it was Darnaud or Donnelly. I don't know where he was born, nor whether he is a citizen of the United States.

I have heard the name of George Marsden. He lives in South Brooklyn. He moved there last May. I never knew him till he was fitting these vessels out. I never saw him before. He fitted out the "*Julia Ann Mista*" and this brig. He is about 5 feet 8 inches high, light complexion, light hair, fair skin. I guess he was an American. He has a wife. He told me he was going to move his family from Fourteenth Street, New York, where he then lived.

I don't know Hiram Smith; never heard of him.

I have not got any of Darnaud's writing. I think I would know it if I was to see it.

I do not know Samuel S. Gray, and never heard of him.

I don't know who owned the "*Grey Eagle*." I never asked any one who owned her. I did not inquire or hear or understand who the owner was. I understood she was to be sailed on account of Mr. George Marsden. I so understood from Captain Darnaud. He told me so only once when she was taking in small stores. That was the first time I asked where she was bound. Captain Darnaud said to St. Thomas, and might go to some of the Windward Islands: this was some two or three days before she sailed. I have seen Marsden fifty times since she sailed. I met him about a fortnight ago in South Street. He didn't say anything to me about the vessel, but I asked him about a statement in the paper. He said that was not the vessel. The paper said it was the barque.

George Marsden employed me to do the rigging. He employed me I can't say what time, but my books will show. It was on the day she arrived from Philadelphia. The money was left in the brig's cabin. I looked at it, and saw it was not enough. I told them I wanted the money.

* Query "barrels."

There were two keys to the cabin. I had one, and Marsden had the other. He told me he would leave it there. I took the money left in the cabin to Marsden, and told him it was not enough. He said he would pay in a few days. He did not tell me what interest he had, nor did Captain Darnaud. The vessel sailed without paying me. She owed me about 200 dollars. Marsden got the steam-boat to tow her down. I went after one, but didn't get one. He paid me about a month after that with a cheque for a part of it; his own cheque on the Bank of Commonwealth, and Oaksmith's cheque for the balance, one of the banks in Hall Street.

I was spoken to about making repairs for this vessel before she arrived at New York from Philadelphia. Marsden spoke to me about it; no one else. Captain D. was not there until the latter end. The only persons I had any conversation [with] about the vessel was Darnaud and Marsden. He has an office in New York. I never knew Marsden to go by any other name. I have seen and been at the office of John A. Mechado. I have seen him alongside of this vessel: never talked with him about this vessel; he merely came and looked on—said nothing. I don't know if he is a citizen. I never saw him on board. I have seen him talking with George Marsden on the dock—they talked Spanish. I never saw him talk with Captain Darnaud. I never saw him alongside but once. He never had anything to do with paying me any money. I had nothing to do with the vessel except the rigging. I put the cargo on board. I put some water-casks on board. I put fifty I suppose. I believe they were filled with water. I should think she had close upon 2,000 gallons. I paid 50 or 60 dollars for the water. Marsden employed me to get the water. Mr. Marsden and Mr. Mechado are not the same person; there are really such men in New York as Marsden and Mechado, and known by that name. Marsden paid me for the water. I paid for the wood. The man I bought of keeps a yard close to my loft—the one furthest from me. I paid for the water-shovels. I don't know where the vessel was built, but I should [think] at Baltimore. I don't know what name she had on her stern.

I had done work for Marsden before; he then came up and paid me for the work I had done on the brig "Bathos."

I put some rice on board the "*Grey Eagle*." I don't know how much. I didn't buy it. I paid the men for putting it on board. There were fifteen or sixteen casks. It didn't come from the New York rice mills.

I put some wine on board—three or four cases. I saw the hatches locked down. The water was in for ballast. She came to New York in ballast. Marsden told me she was to go in ballast. I put the lumber on board. He told me it was to put over the water for dry goods. The first time I saw Mechado was at a sale at the navy yard—the "U. H. Genball;" Mechado bought her. She has gone to the coast. I went on Sunday last to South Brooklyn to see Marsden. I didn't see him. I went about this case. I did not mention to any one in Brooklyn my business. I have seen the handwriting of Darnaud. That is his signature on the [word left out].

(Signed)

THOMAS HATCHER.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th day of September, 1854.

(Signed)

CHAS. HEAZLETT, *United States' Commissioner.*

Frederick Swift sworn:—

I am acquainted with the brig "*Grey Eagle*"—nothing more than we put up stores on the 25th March for a vessel of that name. Our firm is F. Swift and Co. We put up a general assortment of ship's stores. They are entered on our day-book. They were just what you would put up for any vessel, any more than in larger quantities. That day-book is in our possession.

The first I knew of the order, two strangers came into the store; one I ascertained afterwards to be Marsden, and the other a Spaniard. I don't remember whether I ever saw this person afterwards. My partner saw them first; he told me this stranger wanted the stores. George H. Blanchard is the name of my partner. Marsden was in afterwards; he superintended the stores. This must have been a week or ten days before she sailed; the books will show the date; it was the 24th March. I think Marsden paid us for them—I am not sure. I don't know whether the bill was paid to me or to Blanchard. I don't know that I ever saw Captain Darnaud or his writing.

There was another man, who was a seafaring man in appearance, called at the store twice. I don't know his name. I don't know that I should know him if I saw him. The person who called with Marsden was described as a fine looking man. I know John A. Mechado by name. Never saw him in reference to this vessel. I never knew George Marsden till he came into the store. I have seen him since the vessel sailed. I don't know Samuel S. Gray—never heard of him. I think Marsden paid me about the time she sailed—a day or two afterwards. The books will not show how it is paid, whether in cheque or not. Marsden is about 5 feet 7 inches in height, fair complexion, blue eyes, dark hair. I have seen him since the vessel sailed, in New York. He has a brother, Marsden, who goes to sea. I saw him last April; he was at that time captain of a vessel, the "*Mary Eleanor*," a small brig running to Cuba. I don't know who owns her. Captain Marsden has not a family in New York that I know of. I don't know where George Marsden is now; don't know where he lived in New York. I have not heard where he lives now.

I trusted him when the vessel had gone away, upon his personal appearance; we were favourably informed with his personal appearance. He may have paid us the day she sailed. The goods are charged to the "*Grey Eagle*" and owners.

We used to put up the stores of the "*Mary Eleanor*." A. O. K. Smith was the owner of the "*Mary Ellen*;" his place of business is in Pearl below Broad Street, on the right hand as you go down to the battery.

I can't say whether we furnished any rice—our book will. My place of business is 146, Maiden Lane. I reside at the United States' Hotel, kept by Johnston and Carlton.

George Marsden did not say anything about the stores of the "*Mary Eleanor*." He came in with his brother when the stores were got for that vessel. I think Captain Marsden is in her now. Oak Smith sold her to some one in the Newfoundland trade.

George Marsden was a perfect stranger to us. I think he has a mother living in the upper part of New York city. He is a man about 35. My impression is that he is a New Yorker.

(Signed)

F. SWIFT.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th day of September, 1854.

(Signed)

CHAS. HEAZLETT, *United States' Commissioner.*

Henry M. Bearn, being duly sworn, says :—

I reside in Williamsburgh ; my place of business is 31, Old Slip ; residence, 72, South Eighth-Street. I am in coopering business. I furnished some casks for the "*Grey Eagle*"—quite a number I think my books will show—some 16,000 gallons. I think a man named Marsden ordered them. I don't think I would know him—would see him. I didn't see him but three or four times altogether. I think Mr. Marsden paid me. The bill was between 300 and 400 dollars. The name of my partner is Henry F. Daycock. I think we were paid about the time the vessel sailed. They were charged to the brig. I don't know that I have seen George Marsden more than half-a-dozen times altogether. I don't know where he lives. He did not tell me where this vessel was going to. I think he is an American by the looks of him. I know and am well acquainted with John H. Mechado ; he never saw me about this vessel. I think I was at the vessel once. She lay at the "Tobacco Inspection Wharf." Marsden did not tell me who owned the vessel. I was on board when the first load of casks came down. I am not positive whether I furnished casks for the "*Julia Ann Mista*." I did not furnish anything but the water-casks—none of the ship's stores. I am not positive whether I saw the captain there ; nobody answered as captain. We furnished the casks in a couple of days after the order. Marsden is about 30 to 32 years of age, I should judge. I do not know of anybody else who had an interest in this vessel, and I only know of his interest by ordering the casks. I think it was paid by a cheque—when I come to think of it I think it was paid in bank-bills. I do not know Samuel S. Gray—never heard of him as connected with this vessel. I don't know Hiram Smith. I never saw the writing of the captain of this vessel. I think I took receipts for the casks when they were all delivered. We gave the receipt up when we made out the bills.

I think it was a Spaniard who gave the receipt ; he spoke a little English.

I did not know Marsden's name until he came to pay the bill. I sold Mechado 2 casks for the "*Carrier Pidgeon*." She returned from the coast with palm oil. I think I learned Marsden's name from Hatcher. I don't know where George Marsden did business in New York ; he paid me at my place of business.

(Signed) HENRY M. BEARNS.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th day of September, 1854.

(Signed) CHAS. HEAZLETT, *United States' Commissioner.*

Samuel Godwin, being duly sworn, says :—

I am a custom-house broker. I know such a vessel as the "*Grey Eagle*." I cleared a vessel of that name ; I can't say whether it was in the month of March or April. I made out the manifest, dated 25th March, 1854 ; is in my writing. I think I saw the master sign it. I can't say positively that it was signed in my presence, but I have no doubt it was. I think Mr. Marsden called on me to make out the manifest. Marsden called on me to draw up the bill of sale to Gray. Gray was not with him. I had nothing to do with the purchase of the vessel from Hollingsworth. I think Marsden deposited the bill of sale at the custom-house. I cleared the "*Julia Mista*," made the manifest for her. At the time I cleared the "*Julia Mista*" I did not know Mr. Marsden. The stranger came to pay me the fees, and said that a man with him was the captain. I might know him if I saw him. I witnessed the bill of sale, and also acknowledged it, a Notary Public. I don't know where Marsden is now. I don't think that I exchanged a word with the captain. I don't know whether he is a citizen or not.

I don't know anybody that knows Marsden. I prepared the manifest of the "*Julia Mista*" at the request of Mr. Marsden ; the oath was taken at the time I made the manifest. He gave me the money to pay the expenses. He, Marsden, requested to * in the captain's name. I made the manifest after Marsden's name.

The captain only stayed while I made the manifest for him to sign. The man that came with him paid the fees. My place of business is 88, Cedar Street, New York, and 10th Qua. St., Williamsburg, Long Island. I don't know whether Marsden has any brothers in New York.

(Signed) SAMUEL GODWIN.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th day of September, 1854.

(Signed) CHAS. HEAZLETT, *United States' Commissioner.*

James S. Turner, being duly sworn :—

I am employed in the Croton Water-Work Office, New York ; that office furnished water to the "*Grey Eagle*," at Pier 48, North River, foot of Clenton Street. Mr. Hatcher was to the office several times about the water. It was filled at different times by Mr. Hatcher's orders. No one else called beside Mr. Hatcher.

I reside at No. 115, Monroe Street, New York City.

The money was paid to the waterman when he finished putting in the water.

Mr. Renling (the contractor) asked Mr. Hatcher who was to pay ; Mr. Hatcher said, "Let Bill bring the bill with him, and it will be all right."

It runs in my mind that we had an order from Mr. Mechado in the first place, but I am not certain. I never saw any one about the water except Hatcher. Lehman put the water in—William Lehman. The bill was 50 dollars for about 2,400 gallons. It was paid by Mr. Hatcher. I will be 17 years of age the 17th of next January.

(Signed) JAMES S. TURNER.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th day of September, 1854.

(Signed) CHAS. HEAZLETT, *United States' Commissioner.*

William Lehman, being duly sworn :—

I reside at No. 7, Montrose Avenue, Williamsburg. I am in the employ of the Croton Water-Works. Mr. Huston has charge of the Croton Office. Mr. Hatcher ordered the water. I put some 2,400 gallons on board. Mr. Hatcher paid me for it. I asked him, when I was filling, who was to pay; he said he would pay it. This was some five days before she sailed. I don't know on whose account she was sailed—never heard. I don't know George Marsden. I never saw the captain. I saw one man on board, a Spaniard, a tall man. I don't know John A. Mechado. I never heard of the name of Marsden before in my life. The only orders given for water was from Hatcher. I commenced in the evening on one tier to fill the casks, and finished the next day. There were two tiers of casks. There was no lumber on board, or ready to go on board. This was four or five days before she sailed, and I was paid as soon as the water was filled.

(Signed)

WM. LEHMAN.

Sworn and subscribed before me, this 20th day of September, 1854.

(Signed)

CHAS. HEAZLETT, *United States' Commissioner.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 25.

Abstract of Counts.

THE eleven counts, from one to eleven inclusive, charge the defendant with receiving on board a vessel called the "*Grey Eagle*" negroes not held to service or labour, with intent to make slaves of them. The counts vary more particularly in the following particulars :—

1st. Charges the vessel as owned by a citizen and citizens whose name and names are unknown.

2nd. Charges the vessel as owned, in whole and in part, by a citizen whose name is unknown.

3rd. Charges the vessel as owned by George Marsden, who is a citizen of the United States.

4th. Charges the vessel as owned by Samuel S. Gray, who is a citizen of the United States.

The preceding counts all charge defendant as being one of ship's company.

5th. Charges vessel as owned by a citizen and citizens, but charges defendant as master of the vessel.

6th. Charges vessel as navigated for and in behalf of, as in the 1st.

7th. Charges vessel as navigated for and in behalf of, as in 2nd.

8th. Charges vessel as navigated for and in behalf of, as in 3rd.

9th. Charges vessel as navigated for and in behalf of, as in 4th.

The 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, having charged defendant as one of crew.

10th. Is same as 6th, except it charges defendant as master.

11th. Charges the vessel as navigated for and in behalf of John A. Mechado.

The following twelve counts, from 12th to 23rd inclusive, charges defendant with confining and detaining negroes on board vessel called the "*Grey Eagle*," with following variations :—

12th. Charges the vessel as owned, wholly and in part, by a citizen and citizen whose name and names are unknown.

13th. Charges that the vessel was owned, wholly and in part, by a citizen.

14th. Charges the vessel as owned, wholly and in part, by George Marsden, a citizen.

15th. Charges the vessel as owned, wholly and in part, by Samuel S. Gray, a citizen.

16th. Charges the vessel as owned, the same as in 12th, but charges defendant as "master," the 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th charging him as one of the ship's company.

17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th. Are the same as 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th respectively, except that these counts charge the vessel as navigated for and in behalf of, instead of owned by.

21st. Charges the vessel as navigated for J. A. Mechado.

22nd. Charges that defendant was "master" of a vessel navigated for and in behalf of a citizen and citizens.

23rd. Same as 22nd, except that this count charges the act as committed on high seas, within the Admiralty and maritime jurisdiction of the United States.

The following counts, from 24th to 26th inclusive, charges the defendant with "aiding and abetting" in confining and detaining, with the following variations :—

24th. Charges vessel as owned by a citizen and citizen whose names are unknown.

25th. Charges vessel as navigated for and in behalf of a citizen and citizens whose name and names are unknown.

26th. Charges defendant as master, the 24th and 25th having charged him as one of ship's company of vessel owned by a citizen and citizens, &c.

The following six counts, from 27th to 32nd inclusive, charges defendant with delivering on shore from on board vessel, with the following variations :—

27th. Charges vessel as owned, wholly and in part, by a citizen and citizens unknown, and also charges the intent of defendant to sell said negroes as slaves.

28th. Charges vessel as owned by a citizen, with intent to sell.

29th. Charges defendant as master of a vessel, owned by a citizen unknown, intent being to sell.

30th. Charges defendant as one of ship's company, deliver negroes from vessel owned, wholly and in part, by a citizen and citizens, having previously sold such negroes and slaves.

31st. Charges vessel as navigated for a citizen and citizens, and that negroes had previously been sold.

32nd. Charges vessel, owned, wholly and in part, by a citizen and citizens unknown, did on high seas deliver, &c., having previously sold.

33rd. Charges that defendant was a citizen, one of ship's company of a foreign vessel, and did receive on board five hundred negroes, said negroes having been seized on a foreign shore, with intent to make slaves of said negroes.

34th. Charges that defendant did on high seas, being master of vessel owned, in whole and in part, by citizen and citizens, receive on board a number of negroes who had been seized on a foreign shore.

35th. Charges that defendant was a citizen, and one of ship's company of a foreign vessel and did confine and detain a number of negroes, with intent to make them slaves.

The following four counts charge that the subject of the piratical act was a negro, being a male, whose name is unknown, with the following variations :—

36th. Charges that the vessel was navigated for and in behalf of a citizen and citizens, and hat defendant did receive said negro.

37th. Charges the vessel as navigated for and in behalf of a citizen, and that defendant, in connection with others unknown, did confine and detain a negro.

38th. Charges vessel as owned, wholly and in part, by a citizen of the United States, and that defendant, being master, did deliver on shore, intending to make sale of such negro as a slave.

39th. Charges vessel, as navigated for and in behalf of a citizen, did land and deliver on shore a negro, having previously sold said negro as a slave.

Inclosure 6 in No. 25.

Bill of Sale.

To all whom these presents shall come, greeting :

KNOW ye, that I, George Marsden, of the City, County, and State of New York, sole owner of the brig or vessel called "*Grey Eagle*," of the burthen of 185 $\frac{8}{9}$ tons, or thereabouts, for and in consideration of the sum of _____, lawful money of the United States of America, to _____ in hand paid before the sealing and delivery of these presents, by Samuel S. Gray of the City, County, and State of New York, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and am therewith fully satisfied, contented and paid, have bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain and sell, unto the said Samuel S. Gray, his executors, administrators, and assigns, the whole of the said brig or vessel, together with the whole the masts, bowsprit, sails, boat, anchors, cables, and all other necessities thereunto appertaining and belonging ; the certificate of the Register of which said brig or vessel is as follows, to wit :

No. 183. In pursuance of an Act of Congress of the United States of America, entitled "An Act concerning the registering and recording of ships or vessels," George Marsden, of the City, County, and State of New York, having taken or subscribed the oath required by the said Act, and having sworn that he, the said George Marsden, is the only owner of the ship or vessel called the "*Grey Eagle*," of New York, whereof _____ is at present master, and is a citizen of the United States, and that the said ship or vessel was built at Robbinston, in the State of Maine, in the year 1852, as per register No. 117, issued at New York, 12th February, 1853, now surrendered, being temporary, and said Register having certified that the said ship or vessel has one deck and two masts, and that her length is 90 feet 3 inches, her breadth 23 feet, her depth 10 feet, and that she measures 185 $\frac{8}{9}$ tons, and that she is a brig, has a square stern and billet head. And the said George Marsden having agreed to the description and admeasurement above specified, and sufficient security having been given according to the said Act, the said brig has been duly registered at the port of New York.

Given under our hands and seals at the port of New York, this 20th day of March, in the year 1854.

To have and to hold the said the whole vessel and appurtenances thereunto belonging unto him, the said Samuel S. Gray, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to the sole and only proper use, benefit, and behoof of him the said Samuel S. Gray, his executors, administrators, and assigns, for ever. And I the said George Marsden have and by these presents do promise, covenant, and agree for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, to and with the said Samuel S. Gray, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to warrant and defend the said the whole vessel, and all the other before-mentioned appurtenances, against all and every person and persons whomsoever.

In testimony whereof I the said George Marsden have hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of March, 1854.

(Signed) GEO. MARSDEN.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of
(Signed) SAMUEL GODWIN.

State of New York.

Personally appeared before me George Marsden and acknowledged the within bill of sale to be his free act and deed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 25th day of March, in the year 1854.

(Signed) SAMUEL GODWIN, *Notary Public.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 25.

Register Oath and Bond.

Port of New York, ss.

District of the City of New York.

(No. 199.)

I, SAMUEL S. GRAY, of the City, County, and State of New York, do solemnly swear, according to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the ship or vessel called the "*Grey Eagle*," of New York, is of the burthen of 185 $\frac{8}{9}$ tons, and was built at Robbinston, State of Maine, in the year 1852, as per Register No. 183, issued at this port, March 20, 1854, now cancelled, property changed : that my present place of abode or residence is New York, and that he is a citizen of the United

States, and the true and only owner of the said ship or vessel; that there is no subject or citizen of any foreign Prince or State, directly or indirectly, by way of trust, confidence, or otherwise, interested therein, or in the profits or issues thereof, and that J. G. Darnaud is the present master or commander of the said ship or vessel.

(Signed) SAMUEL S. GRAY

Sworn to this 25th day of March, 1854.

(Signed) T. A. OSBORN, D. C.

Know all men by these presents, That we, Samuel S. Gray, are held and stand firmly bound unto the United States of America, in the full and just sum of 1,200 dollars, to which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, by these presents.

Witness our hands and seals, this 25th day of March, 1854.

The condition of the foregoing obligation is such, that whereas Hemon J. Redfield, collector of the District of New York, has issued and granted a certificate of registry, in the manner prescribed by the Act entitled "An Act concerning the Registering and Recording of Ships and Vessels," for the brig called the "*Grey Eagle*," of New York, burthen $185\frac{8}{9}$ tons, whereof Darnaud is at present master, which certificate is dated this day, and numbered 199.

Now, therefore, if the said certificate of registry shall be used for the said brig for which it has been granted, and shall not be sold, lent, or otherwise disposed of to any person or persons whomsoever, and in case the said brig shall be lost, or taken by an enemy, burnt or broken up, or shall be otherwise prevented from returning to the port to which she belongs, if the said certificate (if preserved) shall within eight days after the arrival of the master or person having charge or command of the said brig within any district of the United States be delivered up to the collector of such district; or if any foreigner, or any person or persons for the use and benefit of such foreigner, shall purchase or otherwise become entitled to the whole, or any part or share of or interest in the said brig, the same being within a district of the United States, if the said certificate, shall within seven days after such purchase, change, or transfer of property be delivered up to the collector of the said district; or if such purchase, change, or transfer of property shall happen when the said brig shall be at any foreign port or place, or at sea, if the master or person having the charge or command thereof, shall, within eight days after his arrival within any district of the United States, deliver up the said certificate to the collector of such district, then the said obligation shall be void and of no effect; but otherwise shall remain in full force and virtue.

(Signed) SAMUEL S. GRAY.
J. G. DARNAUD.
HIRAM SMITH.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of
(Signed) J. P. INGRAHAM.

Inclosure 8 in No. 25.

Register of brig "Grey Eagle."

(No. 199.) IN pursuance of an Act of the Congress of the United States of America, entitled "An Act concerning the registering or recording of ships or vessels:"

Samuel S. Gray, of the City, County, and State of New York, having taken or subscribed the oath required by the said Act, and having sworn that he is the only owner of the ship or vessel called the "*Grey Eagle*," of New York, whereof J. G. Darnaud is at present master, and a citizen of the United States, and that the said ship or vessel was built at Robbinston, in the State of Maine, in the year 1852, as per register No. 183, issued at this port March 20, 1854, now cancelled, property changed, and said register having certified that the said ship or vessel has one deck and two masts, and that her length is 90 feet 3 inches, her breadth 23 feet, her depth 10 feet, and that she measures $185\frac{8}{9}$ tons, that she is a brig, has a square stern and a billet head; and the said Samuel S. Gray having agreed to the description and admeasurement above specified, and sufficient security having been given according to the said Act, the said brig has been duly registered at the port of New York.

Given under our hands and seals at the port of New York, this 25th day of March, in the year 1854.

Inclosure 9 in No. 25.

REPORT and Manifest of the Cargo laden at the Port of New York, on board the brig "*Grey Eagle*," J. G. Darnaud, Master, bound for St. Thomas.
(Outward Foreign Manifest.)

Tons.			Crew.						
Marks.	Numbers.	Packages and Contents.	Quantities.	Value of Domestic Articles at the Port of Exportation.	Value of Foreign Articles not entitled to Drawback.	Value of Articles entitled to Drawback.	Value of Articles Warehouseased.	Total.	To be landed at.
		Ballast and Stores . .	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3 55	

New York, March 25, 1854.

(Signed) J. G. DARNAUD.

Inclosure 10 in No. 25.

Bond.

KNOW all men by these presents, that we, J. G. Darnaud, master or commander of the brig called the "*Grey Eagle*," now lying in the district of New York, and Samuel S. Gray, are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America in the full and just sum of 400 dollars, money of the United States, to which payment well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, jointly and severally, our joint and several heirs, executors, and administrators, firmly by these presents.

Sealed with our seals, and dated this 25th day of March, in the year 1854.

Whereas the above bounden J. G. Darnaud hath delivered to the Collector of the Customs for the District of New York, in the State of New York, a verified list, containing, as far as he can ascertain them, the names, places of birth, residence, and description of the persons who compose the company of the said brig called the "*Grey Eagle*" now lying in the said district, of which he is at present master or commander, of which the said collector has delivered to the said master a certified copy.

Now, the condition of this obligation is such, that if the said master shall exhibit the aforesaid certified copy of the list to the first boarding officer at the first port in the United States in which he shall arrive on his return thereto, and then and there also produce the persons named therein to the said boarding officer, except any of the persons contained in the said list who may be discharged in a foreign country, with the consent of the Consul, Vice-Consul, Commercial Agent, or Vice-Commercial Agent there residing, signified in writing under his hand and official seal, to be produced to the collector of the district within which he may arrive, as aforesaid, with the other persons comprising the crew, as aforesaid, or who may have died or absconded, or who may have been forcibly impressed into other service, of which satisfactory proof shall be then also exhibited to the said last-mentioned collector, then, and in such cases, the said obligation shall be void and of no effect; otherwise it shall abide and remain in full force and virtue.

(Signed)

J. G. DARNAUD.
SAMUEL S. GRAY.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of
(Signed) J. P. INGRAHAM.

Inclosure 11 in No. 25.

List, &c., of Crew taken from the Shipping Articles of "Grey Eagle."

Date of Entry.	Names.	Stations.	Birthplace.	Age. Years.	Height. ft. in.	Wages per Month. \$	Advance Wages. \$	Advance abroad.	Hospital Money.	Time of Service.	Whole Wages.	Wages due.	Surties.
	Master ..	Master.				\$	\$						
	William Boudrick	Mate ..	Pennsylvania ..	28	5 7	40	20	..	..	..	..	..	302, Sixth St.
	John Roderick ..	Second Mate ..	New Orleans ..	24	5 7	25	25	..	..	..	..	..	104, Oliver St.
	James Smith ..	Steward ..	New York ..	16	5 6	15	15						
	Raymond Cohero	Cook ..	Spain ..	23	5 9	25	25	..	..	..	..	..	96, Catherine St.
	William Brown ..	Seaman ..	Sweden ..	20	5 9	25	25	..	..	..	..	..	104, Oliver St.
	John Mitchell ..	Ditto ..	Virginia ..	23	5 7	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	Thomas Lynch ..	Ditto ..	New York ..	23	5 7	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	Thomas Smith ..	Ditto ..	New Orleans ..	29	5 9	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	Charles Broman ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	19	5 6	18	18	..	..	..	..	..	Ditto.
	John Davis ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	20	5 7	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	Lynch.
	Charles Brown ..	Ditto ..	New York ..	21	5 10	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	Code.
	James Young ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	36	5 10	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	Code.
	Francis Silva ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	21	5 7	20	20	..	..	..	..	..	Alenzo.

Inclosure 12 in No. 25.

Decision of the Mixed Court in the case of the brig "Grey Eagle."

(Translation.)

I, DOCTOR DON JOSE ANTONIO VALDES, Her Majesty's Secretary of the Mixed Court of Justice established in this city for the abolition of the African Slave Trade, under the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, certify that, in the proceedings formed on the capture made by Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Espiègle," in the creek of Ortigosa, of the brig "*Grey Eagle*," without crew, flag, or papers, and with signs of having disembarked therein African negroes, the final decision was pronounced to the following effect:—

In the always most faithful city of Havana, on the 26th of May, 1855, Don Francisco Yllas, Brigadier of Infantry, &c., and Acting Spanish Judge of the Mixed Court of Justice established in this city for the abolition of the African Slave Trade, under the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, and Mr. George Canning Backhouse, British Judge of the same Court, having met to pronounce the definitive sentence which may be right on these proceedings, formed in consequence of the capture of the brig "*Grey Eagle*," Philadelphia, effected in the creek of Ortigosa, on account of the suspicion of her having disembarked therein a cargo of African negroes, and being abandoned without crew, flag, or papers, which capture was made by Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Espiègle," Commander George Hancock; and after examination of the documents communicated by the Superior Government of this Island, as well as by the Supreme Government of the United States, which are to be found at leaves 166 to 171, 183 to 200, and 241 to 406, requested in order that this Court might be informed of the nationality of the said vessel or of her owner, because these circumstances were unknown in the State in which the vessel was found, and were necessary in order to establish its (the Court's) competency in conformity with the Treaty, which relates only to Spanish and English merchant-vessels: Considering that, although the said documents afford presumptive evidence of the vessel having belonged to a subject of the former of the said nations; it (the presumptive evidence) is not, however, so legal or direct as to have such a degree of force as not to admit of proof against thinking the said nationality fully proved; they have agreed that they ought to declare, and they do declare, that powers do not belong to them to sentence the said captured vessel merely because she was found with an appearance of having been employed in the African Negro Trade; and they resolve, therefore, to place her at the disposal of his Excellency the Governor and Captain-General, transmitting to him at the same time these proceedings in original, by means of a polite communication in the customary form, in order that his Excellency may be pleased to determine what is right. That there be placed likewise at the disposal of his Excellency the sum which is in deposit at the office of the Secretary of this Court, being the proceeds of the sale of the rice which was found on board of the vessel, the effecting of which [sale] was decreed in order to avoid the complete loss by damage of the said produce, after the making out of the account which the same [Secretary's office] may make of the expense of the disembarkation, appraisement, &c., of the said rice. And lastly, that the costs of these proceedings, having first been taxed, be paid by the two Governments as is provided in the Treaty; for which purpose, with regard to those which have to be paid by that of Spain, let his Excellency the said Governor and Captain-General be requested, as Superintendent-General, to give the necessary orders for delivering from the Treasury to the Secretary that which it shall belong to it [to pay]. Thus their Honours have decreed, ordered, and signed, with the assistance of the Government interpreter, Don Ernesto Saportas, which I, the Secretary, certify. And on the verbal order of the British Judge, I deliver this to give to his Honour at Havana on the 4th of June, 1855.

(Signed)

DR. JOSE ANTONIO VALDES, *Secretary*.

No. 26.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 20, 1855.

WITH reference to the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, 1854, respecting immigrants into Cuba, I have the honour to transmit herewith a translation of a set of Regulations published this month by the Captain-General, for the purpose, it is said, of carrying into effect the order with which that Royal Decree concluded, and which provided for the registering of the immigrants.

Under these Regulations, it will be seen, the first registration is to take place on the 1st of September next, and the second not till the 30th of November of next year. But the order in the Royal Decree referred to should, it appears, have been carried out last January, the operation of registering having to be performed then for the first time, and to be repeated every twelve months. The Royal Decree therefore has not been strictly obeyed.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Regulations for the Registration of Immigrants.

(Translation.)

THE Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, 1854, provides in its final order that the Superior Civil Government of this Island should adopt suitable arrangements in order that every year there be formed or corrected the registers of the immigrants resident therein. In order to be able to carry out that sovereign resolution, and with the double object of facilitating the exercise of inspection and vigilance which belongs to this Superior Civil Government, I have thought proper to dictate the following orders:—

Article 1. There shall be opened in the Office of the Secretary of the Superior Civil Government a Register of Immigrants, in which shall appear the sex, age, nation, condition of each, the work to which each may be applied, the term of his engagement with the contractor, and of his being ceded to the master on whose account he works, and the name, profession, and domicile of both.

Art. 2. To each immigrant there shall be issued, a special ticket, which shall serve during a year counting from the 1st of December, and shall be renewed on that of November. They [the tickets] shall contain the particulars referred to in Article 1, and shall cost on their issue two reales fuertes, of which the master shall pay one-half, and the other he may deduct from the wages of the immigrant.

Art. 3. These tickets, drawn up according to the annexed model, shall be delivered from the Public Customs in the month of October to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors, who shall issue them, and return at the end of each six months the leaves that remain over.

Art. 4. If any ticket shall be lost or destroyed, another new one must be obtained upon payment of the appointed duty.

Art. 5. It will be the duty of the masters to ask for and obtain the tickets in question, they being the persons responsible for the want of them.

Art. 6. The omission of the application to which the preceding Article refers will be punished with a fine of 10 dollars, which shall be imposed and levied in the manner prescribed for penalties of this kind.

Art. 7. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall keep a register of the tickets which they may issue, in the form which is pointed out in Article 1, respecting that which has to be kept in the Office of the Secretary of the Superior Civil Government, and, according to the said books, they shall send to the latter dependency in December in each year a statement of the immigrants existing within their jurisdiction. In like manner they shall give information during the course of the year, of the diminutions which may have taken place by death or by change of condition, for which purpose the masters shall be obliged to give notice to the said authorities of the diminutions referred to within the space of three days, together with, in case of death, the certificate of death. The omission of this notice will be punished with a fine of 25 dollars.

Art. 8. These tickets will serve as certifying documents, and, besides, as transit licenses for immigrants who move from one part to another of the island. The respective masters will take care that the immigrants do not undertake the journey without their express license, which they will make appear at the foot of the ticket. When the immigrant shall go out of the limits of his place of residence, he must always take that document with him, and show it to every authority or agent of police, who shall require it to be exhibited. In like manner he must present it to the local authority at the end of his journey in order that he [the local authority] may take cognizance of it, and may return it with a note of its having been presented.

Art. 9. If any immigrant shall be found without a ticket he must be detained and placed at the disposal of the nearest Governor or Captain of a District, who shall give information to the master within two days. When it is unknown who the said master may be, the detention shall be announced circumstantially through the medium of the periodical or periodicals of the district, or, if there be no periodicals, in edicts, three consecutive times, leaving between each an interval of three days.

Art. 10. If the master shall present himself the immigrant shall be delivered up to him, account being rendered to the respective Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of his name and domicile, as well as whether he did or did not exhibit the respective ticket, in order for the exacting, in case it should not have been taken out, of the proper fine. Likewise it shall be reported to the Superior Civil Government, if the master be not ascertained, or if the latter do not present himself, in order that by the former the contractor may be sought for, to the end that he may be made to take charge of the captive.

Art. 11. The costs occasioned by the detention of the immigrant shall be paid, should the want of the ticket arise from its not having been taken out, by the master. If the ticket shall exist, the same master shall pay them, but with a right to deduct from the wages of the immigrant the respective sum, should his not having it with him have arisen from a fault or negligence of his own.

Art. 12. There is assigned to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors 4 per cent. of the amount of the duties which by means of these tickets they may collect in their respective jurisdictions.

Concluding Article. The sums proceeding from the issue of these documents, after the abatement therefrom of the shares referred to, shall enter the Royal Treasury.

Havana, June 5, 1855.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Decree of June 5, 1855.

Art. 2. To each immigrant there shall be issued a special ticket, which shall serve during a year, counting from the 1st of December, and shall be renewed on that of November. They [the tickets] shall contain the particulars* referred to in Article 1, and shall cost on their issue 2 reales fuertes, of which the master shall pay one-half and the other he may deduct from the wages of the immigrant.

Art. 4. If any ticket shall be lost or destroyed, another new one must be obtained upon payment of the appointed duty.

Art. 5. It will be the duty of the masters to ask for and obtain the tickets in question, they being the persons responsible for the want of them.

Art. 6. The omission of the application to which the preceding Article refers, will be punished with a fine of 10 dollars, which shall be imposed and levied in the manner prescribed for penalties of this kind.

Art. 7. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall keep a register of the tickets which they may issue, in the form which is pointed out in Article 1 respecting that which has to be kept in the Office of the Secretary of the Superior Civil Governor, and, according to the said books, they shall send to the latter dependency in December in each year, a statement of the immigrants existing within their jurisdiction. In like manner they shall give information during the course of the year of the diminutions which may have taken place by death, or change of condition, for which purpose the masters shall be obliged to give notice to the said authorities of the diminutions referred to within the space of three days, together with, in case of death, the certificate of death. The omission of this notice will be punished with a fine of 25 dollars.

Art. 8. These tickets will serve as certifying documents, and, besides, as transit licenses for immigrants who move from one part to another of the island. The respective masters will take care that the immigrants do not undertake the journey without their express license, which they will make appear at the foot of the ticket. When the immigrant shall go out of the limits of his place of residence, he must always take that document with him, and show it to every authority or agent of police who shall require it to be exhibited. In like manner he must present it to the local authority at the end of his journey, in order that he (the local authority) may take cognizance of it, and may return it with a note of its having been presented.

Art. 9. If any immigrant shall be found without a ticket, he must be detained and placed at the disposal of the nearest Governor or Captain of a District, who shall give information to the master within two days. When it is unknown who the said master may be, the detention shall be announced circumstantially through the medium of the periodical or periodicals of the district, or, if there be no periodicals, in edicts, three consecutive times, leaving between each an interval of three days.

Art. 10. If the master shall present himself, the immigrant shall be delivered up to him, account being rendered to the respective Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of his name and domicile, as well as whether he did or did not exhibit the respective ticket, in order for the exacting, in case it should not have been taken out, of the proper fine. Likewise it shall be reported to the Superior Civil Government, if the master be not ascertained, or if the latter do not present himself, in order that by the former the contractor may be sought for, to the end that he may be made to take charge of the captive.

Art. 11. The costs occasioned by the detention of the immigrant shall be paid, should the want of the ticket arise from its not having been taken out, by the master. If the ticket shall exist, the same master shall pay them, but with a right to deduct from the wages of the immigrant the respective sum, should his not having it with him have arisen from a fault or negligence of his own.

As the formation of the register to which the preceding Decree refers cannot be postponed, the tickets which are therein instituted will be issued this year in the month of August, to take effect from the 1st of September, at which time all the immigrants must be provided with them, to the 30th of November next year.

Havana, June 5, 1855.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 27.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Return of the only case that has been before the Mixed Court at the Havana during the last six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

* Ticket in favour of the male immigrant _____, native of the town of _____,
in _____, aged _____, in the condition _____, and engaged in _____,
by virtue of a contract effected for the term of _____ years with Don _____ who ceded
him for _____ to Don _____.

Personal Marks.

Colour,

Stature,

Particular marks, _____

Signature of the authority.

Price, 2 reales fuertes.

Passes with my permission to _____

Inclosure in No. 27.

RETURN of Case before the Mixed Court at Havana, for adjudication in the half-year beginning the 1st of January, and ending the 30th of June, 1855.

Name of Vessel.	Flag.	Name of Master.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured.		Property seized.	Seizor.	Date of Sentence.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Tonnage.				Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	Whether property condemned has been sold or not, and whether any part remains unsold, and in whose hands the proceeds remain.	Remarks.
				Lat.	Long.						Foreign papers, according to	Old ad-measure-ment.	New ad-measure-ment.				
Grey Eagle	None	Unknown	1854 June 27	Lat. 23° 3' N.	Long. 83° 8' W.	Vessel fitted as a slaver, with some supply of provisions	Commander Hancock, H.M.S. "Espiegle"	1855 May 26	None	None	183 ⁸ / ₁₀₀	162 ⁴⁶ / ₁₀₀	...	Vessel given up to the Captain-General: Mixed Court decided it having no power to adjudicate.			

No. 28.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 9, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a translation of a Decree dated the 6th instant, issued by the Captain-General in consequence of some delay having taken place in the carrying out of his Decree of the 19th December last, to which he refers, for the registration of slaves in this island.

I had the honour to transmit a translation of the Decree referred to, of the 19th of December, in my despatch of the 1st of January this year, containing my annual report.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure in No. 28.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Office of the Government Secretary.

IN the Decree of the 19th of December last, establishing certificate-tickets for slaves, the Commissaries and Captains of Districts were ordered to deliver into the Royal Treasury the proceeds of the said tickets in the months of February and August.

It has not been possible to carry out this order within the first six months of this year, through the delay with which the ticket-books issued by the administrators of the Royal revenue were received; and, with a view to regulating this service according to the terms which the said Decree provided, the following orders will be observed:—

Article 1. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors, taking into consideration the present state of the issue of tickets for the first half-year in each Commissary's or Captain's district, will on this occasion fix the day from which, in each of them [the districts] must positively begin to be reckoned the period of one month for that of July, as provided in the Decree for the issue of the tickets for this second half-year.

Art. 2. In order to obtain these tickets for the second half-year, those of the former which have become unavailable must be presented; and those persons who do not present them come of course, at once under the 10th Article of said Decree of the 19th December last, having to pay the fine of 10 dollars for each ticket, unless the issue thereof shall appear from the respective tally in the book for the former half-year.

Art. 3. Within the month following that of the period appointed for each Commissary's or Captain's district for the issue of tickets for this second half-year, the Commissaries and Captains thereof shall deliver into the respective revenue offices the sums which they may have collected. As far as relates to the first half of this year, they shall deliver up all the ticket-books, both those which they may have used and those which may remain over; but, as respects this second half-year, they shall keep in their possession the books which contain the tallies of the tickets issued, in order to compare the latter when it may be necessary.

Art. 4. The account being made up for the second half-year, there shall be delivered by the administrators of the revenue to the Commissaries and Captains of Districts a book, which shall not contain more than fifty tickets, and which will serve for making out those which for the half-year they may have to issue as not having been so [issued] at the proper time, upon the payment, which shall be recorded, of the fine of 10 dollars appointed in the 10th Article of the said Decree of the 19th of December.

Art. 5. Except the tickets provided for in the preceding Article, there shall be no other new ones issued after the expiration of the month mentioned in the 1st Article; and those which shall have been lost shall be replaced with a certificate, free of expense, by the respective Commissary or Captain, on reference to the tally-book.

Art. 6. The Commissaries and Captains of Districts shall make a general statement, according to the Model No. 1, which they shall deliver to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors, when they make up their accounts with the revenue officers; and shall afterwards draw up in form, to forward to the same [Governors and Lieutenant-Governors] the registers of the rural tickets, in conformity with the Model No. 2.

Art. 7. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall adopt in their respective jurisdictions the measures which they may consider proper for the exact fulfilment of the foregoing orders; they giving account to the Governor of the respective Department, and he to the Government of the Captain-General of the Island.

Havana, July 6, 1855.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

To the Lieutenant-Governor of

No. 29.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that, as is usually the case at this time of the year, there appears to have been great activity lately in Slave Trade.

In my despatch of the 12th of May last,* I had to report several rumours relating to this subject, and especially some account connected with a deserted slaver, the "*Horatio*," of New York, which had been found by wreckers at Key West. Since the date of that despatch I have obtained (through Mr. Dalrymple) some further particulars respecting that vessel, including some account of the numbers of negroes that had been landed from her, and of those that had been seized, not quite agreeing with my former account. The number of negroes brought in the vessel was, according to the later account, 420, of whom 72 were seized. A certain Don Santiago Sainz, the owner of two sugar estates, called San Juan and Volador, about five leagues from Bahia Honda, and his "administrador" on each of those estates, were said to have been arrested on account of their participation in this Slave Trade transaction. The supercargo was said to have been the same Vasquez whom I mentioned in my despatch of the 10th of October last year,† as having held the same position in the "*Peerless*," which landed slaves at Ortigosa about a year ago.

On the recent occasion, after the landing of the negroes, Vasquez, and some of the slave-crew, left this island in their vessel the "*Horatio*;" at sea they then met with an American vessel, the name of which I have not learnt, and which took them on board, the "*Horatio*" being left to drift in the state in which she was afterwards found at Key West. Vasquez afterwards arrived at New York, but finding himself there in danger of prosecution and punishment for having falsely represented himself formerly to be owner as well as supercargo of the "*Horatio*," he left New York under an assumed name; but where he then went to I have not learnt. He is said to be a native of Gibraltar, and an American citizen.

A few days ago Mr. Dalrymple informed me of a rumour he had heard of two or three vessels under American colours having left this port about a fortnight previously, that is, soon after the middle of June, for the United States, from whence they were to proceed to the coast of Africa for the purpose of carrying on Slave Trade.

With reference to the expedition in 1853 of the "*General Pierce*," I have to report that I recently obtained some particulars respecting it. The expedition is reported to have been a complete failure as regards Slave Trade.

From Pensacola the "*General Pierce*" went to Baltimore; she there took some free negroes on board, and then sailed for the coast of Africa, ostensibly for the sole purpose of conveying the free negroes thither—I presume to Liberia—and eventually to bring over Bozal negroes to this island. She had an American captain on board and a Spanish "passenger." The American captain was lately at this port, and I believe is still, having not long ago arrived with a cargo of coals from South Wales; he attributes the failure of the intended slave-trading expedition to the presumption of the Spaniard on board, who had undertaken to procure negroes on the coast, but who turned out, as I understand, to be unable to do so for want of acquaintance or connection with any of the people to be dealt with for the purpose. The name of the American captain is Goodmanson; and I am informed that he is willing to take part in any new Slave Trade adventure, whenever a favourable opportunity may occur.

Mr. Crawford has informed me that he lately heard that a cargo of 480 Bozal negroes was landed at Cabanas in the month of May last, and that only 33 of them were captured by the Spanish Government officers;

* No. 21.

† Class A, presented 1855, No. 29.

and that in the latter part of last month it was rumoured at Trinidad that 450 had been landed in the District of Sancti Spiritus to the east of Trinidad. Mr. Crawford had previously been informed that some negroes were expected at Trinidad, and he stated to me verbally, a short time ago, in answer to my inquiries, that he had reported this information to the Captain-General, and that a Spanish steamer of war had been sent to that port, and that at the very time of her arrival there the landing took place to the eastward.

Her Majesty's brig "Wolverine" had been sent to intercept, if possible, this or any other of the expected arrivals of negroes. Her Majesty's steamer "Medea" had, during the last month, been cruising about Cape San Antonio, the western extremity of this island, and when returning to this port, which she reached on the 27th ultimo, she met Her Majesty's brigs "Wolverine" and "Daring," and Her Majesty's ship "Eurydice." The "Medea" has since gone to Port Royal, Jamaica.

I beg to refer your Lordship to my despatch of the 9th of December last,* in which I stated that all the persons who had undergone imprisonment and trial, as having been concerned with the slaver "*Venus*," condemned in January 1853, had been liberated, with the exception of the passenger, Don José de Riguer, *alias* Don Antonio Gutierrez, who had just then been sentenced by the Real Audiencia to a year's "vigilancia" in the Isle of Pines.

Mr. Dalrymple told me some time ago that, in the early part of May last, he met Don José de Riguer in the street in Havana, apparently quite at liberty, and that, being acquainted with him, he spoke to him, and was informed by him that it was quite true that he (De Riguer) was still under sentence of a year's confinement to the Isle of Pines, but that the reason for his being in Havana was, that he had been sent for by the Captain-General, and that he was about to return again to the Isle of Pines. I consulted the Secretary of the Mixed Court as to the propriety of a letter being addressed by the Court to the Captain-General for the purpose of inquiring whether De Riguer's statement were correct; but the Secretary was of opinion that the Mixed Court, after pronouncing its own sentence, had no right to interfere at all as to the carrying out of the Spanish law, which was framed in consequence of the IInd Article of the Treaty of 1835; and I did not think it right of my own accord to take any steps by myself.

No. 30.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 21, 1855.

IN my despatch of the 9th instant, I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship a translation of a Decree which the Captain-General had recently issued, in consequence of delay having taken place in the carrying out of his Decree of the 19th of December last for the registration of slaves.

I have now to transmit a translation of a Decree published yesterday as a supplement to that of the 19th of December last, and intended to meet a fraud which had not hitherto been provided against in the Decree of the 19th of December last, and which I stated in my despatch of the 30th of September last† I understood to exist, that of registering a larger number of slaves than already exist, in order to provide for fresh ones expected to arrive from Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

G. C. BACKHOUSE.

* Class A, presented 1855, No. 35.

† Ibid., No. 27.

Inclosure in No. 30.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Government Secretary's Office.

WITH a view to prevent the slave certificate-tickets from serving to screen the clandestine introduction of Bozals by the obtaining, with fictitious names, an excessive number of the said documents, and considering that, although in the Decree of the 19th of December last there is established a fine of 10 dollars for every slave without a ticket, there is no penalty provided for the contrary case of the obtaining of it for those who do not exist, I have thought fit to order that, in addition to the said Decree, the following orders be observed:—

Article 1. Owners or holders of slaves who apply for more tickets than they require for them (the slaves), will incur a penalty of fifty dollars for each (ticket) exceeding the true number.

Art. 2. When the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, or Captains of Districts, have suspicions of such a fraud having been committed, steps shall be taken to count the numbers in the slave-gangs to which those (suspicions) attach.

This operation shall be performed always by the Governor or Lieutenant of the Province, and for that purpose the Captains of Districts shall give them the necessary information.

Art. 3. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall institute official proceedings for ascertaining the offence, themselves inflicting the fine pointed out in Article 1, and communicating the proceedings to this Superior Government.

Art. 4. If it shall appear that the offence has been committed under connivance at any clandestine introduction of Bozals, or, indeed, if from an examination of the tickets of the last half-year, it should appear that the latter have been given to Bozal negroes, the proceedings shall be transmitted to the Tribunals, in order that they may proceed to do what is right according to law.

Havana, July 19, 1855.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 31.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 26th instant, of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo; and I have to report that, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction contained in that despatch, I immediately addressed a letter to Mr. Crawford, for the purpose, as I stated therein, of his calling the attention of the Captain-General to the subject of it—communicating to him all the information which I possessed, and which is all contained in my despatch, and the postscript thereto, of the 12th of May last,* respecting the alleged Slave Trade transaction of Don Juan Aguirre. At first Mr. Crawford informed me in reply that he had already, on the 1st instant, charged the said Aguirre so prominently before the Captain-General as having been concerned with others in the cargo of Bozals landed at Cabañas in May last (that reported to your Lordship, on Mr. Crawford's authority, in my despatch of the 10th instant), that he thought it almost superfluous to lodge further complaints against him at present, considering that the information I had given might be useful to bring forward in case Aguirre should be found to be engaged in Slave Trade hereafter. He has, however, at length consented to take an early opportunity of bringing forward the additional information against Aguirre.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

No. 32.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 10, 1855.

WITH reference to that part of my despatch of the 10th ultimo which relates to an American of the name of Goodmansson, who in 1853 commanded the "*General Pierce*" on an unsuccessful expedition

undertaken for the purpose of Slave Trade, and who was recently here engaged in lawful trade, but who, I have reason to believe, would willingly take any favourable opportunity of again attempting Slave Trade, I have the honour to report that, within a very few days after the date of my despatch above referred to, he left this port in command of the American barque "Victor," bound for Hamburgh, conveying a cargo shipped by two German mercantile houses in Havana.

No. 33.

Her Majesty's Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 21, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 9th and 21st ultimo, containing copies of Decrees issued recently by the Captain-General relative to the provisions or working of his Decree of the 19th of December last for the registration of slaves, I have the honour to transmit a translation of another Decree which was issued by his Excellency on the 14th instant, relative to the same subject, and remitting all the penalties incurred by persons who have hitherto neglected to comply with the law for the registration of slaves, by omitting to obtain the certificates required thereby for the first half-year during which the said law has been declared to be in force. This Decree authorizes, moreover, ten days' extension, if required, of the time allowed for the procuring of the certificates for this second half-year; and has been followed by an order from the Political Governor of Havana, extending that time accordingly to the 25th instant, after which day it is declared all penalties similarly incurred will be irrevocably inflicted.

One of the objects of this indulgence, as stated by the Captain-General in the preamble to this Decree, appears to be the security of slavery. The only obvious meaning of this expression seems to be an allusion to the XVth Article of the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, 1854, on the registration of slaves. In that Article it was provided that all slaves not registered at the proper time, with certain exceptions which it was necessary to make, and which were stated in the XVIIth Article, should be considered manumitted and free. There is no such provision in the Captain-General's Decree of the 19th of December last; but that Decree of the Captain-General's was stated in the preamble to be intended to serve only temporarily, until the settlement of a question submitted to the Government at Madrid upon the subject of the Royal Decree.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. C. BACKHOUSE.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Government Secretary's Office.

CONSIDERING the many memorials which have been presented to this Government, praying for the remission of the fines which the memorialists have incurred, in pursuance of the Decree of the 19th of December last, by not having obtained the certificate-tickets for their slaves within the first half of the present year, notwithstanding the repeated postponements which I have thought proper to allow, taking into consideration that the greater part of them allege causes which, to a certain degree, excuse their fault, it having been the intention of the Government in establishing the said fines to render not grievous to the public, but useful in every point of view, the police measures contained in the said Decree for the security of slavery and for the protecting of the temporary capitation tax while Her Majesty was pleased to deliberate on the subject, and considering that, although some may through their tardiness, have merited the infliction of the said penalty, the remission of it to them is to be preferred to the perhaps undeserved punishment of the greater number, I have thought proper to decree the following:—

1. All fines inflicted, or which ought to be inflicted, for want of slaves' certificate-tickets in the first half-year, until the termination of the time appointed at each place for the issuing of tickets for the second half-year, are remitted.

2. Those who shall have already paid fines of this nature may apply to the respective authorities for the restitution of the amount thereof within three days after the publication of this Decree.

3. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors are authorized to protract for ten days more the period of time appointed for the issue of the tickets for the second half-year, if they shall think it necessary to do so.

4. On the expiration of the period appointed for the said purpose, the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall irrevocably inflict the proper fines on those who may still be guilty of delay, without granting compliance to any petition for pardon, which shall neither be granted in any dependency of the Government.

Havana, August 14, 1855.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 34.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 29, 1855.

I HAVE referred to the proper Law Officer of the Crown, your despatch of the 18th June last, in which you suggest that when the Mixed Court decided that it was incompetent to deal with the case of the "*Grey Eagle*," that Court ought to have proceeded to restore the vessel in question to Commander Hancock, of Her Majesty's ship "*Espiègle*"; and I have to inform you, that the course suggested by you would not have been the proper one to pursue. When the Court decided that it had no jurisdiction over the "*Grey Eagle*," because she was neither a British nor a Spanish vessel, it could not have legally ordered the delivery or restoration of the ship to Commander Hancock; especially as he cannot be legally considered to be the captor of the vessel.

The validity of that part of the sentence of the Court which placed the "*Grey Eagle*" at the disposal of the Captain-General, is not free from doubt; but no serious objection can be raised against that decision, as the vessel was within Spanish jurisdiction, both when she was captured and when the sentence was passed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 35.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, September 1, 1855.

IT is with the deepest grief that I have to state to your Lordship that Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, died last night at 11 o'clock, and that his death was occasioned by a wound inflicted upon his person by a mulatto, who attacked him in his own house about 8 o'clock in the evening, accompanied by others of a gang for the purpose of plundering his own dwelling.

I have taken upon myself the duties of the Commissioner's office until your Lordship's pleasure is known.

No. 36.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st ultimo, and I have learnt from it with deep regret that Mr. Backhouse has been murdered by one of a gang of robbers who, it appears, intended to plunder his house.

I trust that every effort will be made by the Spanish authorities to have this atrocious crime fully investigated, and to bring the perpetrators to justice.

I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having taken upon yourself the duties of Acting Commissary Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Commission for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 37.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 25, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of September 29, addressed to the late Mr. Backhouse, in which your Lordship informs him that his despatch of the 18th of June last having been submitted to the proper Law Officer of the Crown, and the Mixed Court having decided that it was incompetent to deal with the case of the "*Grey Eagle*," the course suggested by Her Majesty's then Commissary Judge, that the Court ought to have proceeded to restore the vessel in question to Commander Hancock, of Her Majesty's brig "*Espiègle*," would not have been that which was proper to pursue; that when the Court decided that it had no jurisdiction over the "*Grey Eagle*," because she was neither a British nor a Spanish vessel, it could not have legally ordered the restitution of the ship to Commander Hancock, especially as he cannot be legally considered to be the captor of the vessel. And with regard to the validity of the sentence of the Court, which placed the "*Grey Eagle*" at the disposition of the Captain-General, that it is not free from doubt, but that no serious objection can be raised against that decision, as the vessel was within Spanish jurisdiction both when she was captured and when sentence was passed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 38.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 17.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 23, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, which has reference to mine of the 1st of September, reporting the sad circumstances of the death, by assassination, of Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's late Commissary Judge at this place.

I have not ceased to stimulate the exertions of these authorities for bringing to justice and punishment the perpetrators of this most atrocious crime; but I regret to say that there seems to be no possibility of obtaining proofs sufficient to establish the guilt of the suspected persons who have been imprisoned and placed under trial, accused of the murder.

The total absence of witnesses to the committal of the crime, the inability of the only person who was with Mr. Backhouse at the time to identify the negro man who first came into the room and at once proceeded to attack that only person present, Mr. Callaghan, added to the circumstance of his being immediately engaged in a struggle which prevented him from seeing or observing anything else that took place, or even the having ever seen the Mulatto or Chino who attacked Mr. Backhouse; and the deceased having been unable to state that a negro man, who was captured in the garden, was the one who assaulted Mr. Callaghan, as well as that, when asked by the magistrate, previous to his death, whether he should be able to identify the man who wounded him, he said

that he would be unable to do so, renders it extremely difficult to obtain the necessary proofs.

The suspected murderer pleads an *alibi*, in support of which he adduces proofs, which the Judge could only reject by positive evidence against him, which has not been obtained for the reasons before stated; and although everything has been done to induce some of them to turn evidence, none of the prisoners have done so, and there has no further progress been made in the investigation.

Your Lordship may be assured that I shall use every means for the prosecution of the guilty; but such is the obscurity which covers their horrible crime, that I very much fear the authorities, anxious as they are to do so, may not be able to bring them to justice, unless some fortuitous discovery should lead to their conviction.

It is very pleasing to me that your Lordship approves of my having taken upon myself the duties of Acting Commissary Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Commission for suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 39.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 22, 1855.

I HAVE to acquaint you that, in pursuance of my recommendation, the Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint you to be Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Court of Justice established at the Havana under the Treaty between Great Britain and Spain, concluded at Madrid on the 28th of June, 1835, for the abolition of the Slave Trade.

Your commission, which accompanies this letter, is dated on the 1st instant, and your appointment was gazetted on the 21st instant.

No. 40.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissary Judge.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 22, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of this day's date, informing you of your appointment to be Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Court at Havana, I have to acquaint you that Mr. Francis Lousada, late Her Majesty's Consul at Riga, has been appointed to be the British Arbitrator in the same Court.

No. 41.

Lord Wodehouse to Consul Lousada.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 22, 1855.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to inform you that Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, has been appointed to be Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Court in which you are to be Her Majesty's Arbitrator; and I am to desire that you will consider Mr. Crawford as the chief British officer in the Commission of which you are members.

No. 42.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 30, 1856.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a translation of a Decree, dated and published the 10th instant, by the Captain-General of Cuba, for carrying into effect the registry or capitation of slaves; which Decree, although it appears to be for checking the accountability of the "Capitanes de Partido," the "Comisarios," and "Celadores," goes to show that each of those functionaries may, upon application to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors of districts, upon the plea of having spoilt the tickets or "cedulas" intrusted to him for the registry or capitation of slaves, have books of one hundred tickets or "cedulas" delivered to him, for the purpose of replacing those which may have been lost, or become useless or mislaid.

This, in my opinion, opens a door for fraud, and for the furnishing of tickets or "cedulas" to newly introduced slaves, since it is notorious that the Bozals who have been imported since the adoption of those tickets have had them ready awaiting their arrival; so that those newly landed Africans were at once provided with surreptitiously obtained protections, thus converting the registration of slaves into a means of covering the most scandalous contraband.

If, however, this registration is carried out as it ought to be, and the returns thereof made to the Government here are adopted for estimating the actual amount of the slave population, the checking of this registration in future, at stated periods, if honestly gone about, will doubtless operate in some measure as a preventive to further introductions of Bozals, and would put an end to the African Slave Trade altogether, if all surplus slaves were seized, and the law of registration rigorously enforced.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 42.

Decree.

(Translation.)

HAVING to put in execution from the 1st day of the coming year, the Royal Decree of the 6th of March of the present year, relating to public accounts, and it being necessary, in consequence, therefore to combine it with the dispositions now in force for the issuing of "cedulas" for slaves, the revenue from which enters into the Royal Treasury, I have thought proper to issue the following Decree:—

1. The books of the registry and capitation of slaves shall be delivered by the Treasury to the Superior Civil Government, which shall grant a receipt for the entire amount, and shall transmit them to the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors under their receipt.

2. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall distribute said books in the months of December and June to the captains and other officers of police who have to issue them, and in proportion to the number of slaves existing in each district.

3. The Captains, Commissaries, and "Celadores," shall close their respective books on the 15th of February and 15th of August, and within eight days afterwards shall deliver them, in whatever state they may be, together with the useless "cedulas," to the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, who will return them a book of 100 "cedulas," specifying that same shall be used only when asked for in cases of loss or delay.

4. If the book spoken of in the preceding paragraph should be entirely used, the Captains, Commissaries, or "Celadores" shall ask for another similar one from the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor. Said authorities shall be obliged, as well at the time of issuing said "cedulas" as on the issue of others on proper occasions, to inscribe on them, and in their margins, the date of their issue, certified by their signatures.

5. When the Captains and Commissaries, or "Celadores," deliver up, after the already mentioned periods, say 15th of February and 15th of August, the books and useless "cedulas," they shall hand over the amount received up to said dates, deducting 4 per cent. which they are entitled to, for collection, accompanied by a circumstantial and exact statement of the figures to which said sum amounts, and of the number of documents received, issued, and returned.

6. The delivery and partial account corresponding to the "cedulas," spoken of in the latter part of the third paragraph, shall be rendered in the same manner, as soon as the books corresponding thereto may have been expended. If, at the termination of the respective six months, the "cedulas"

which they contain should not be entirely issued, the delivery shall be made with a separate account on furnishing the principal one for the following six months.

7. As well in the one case as in the other, the Lieutenant-Governor or Governor shall issue to these functionaries the proper receipt, previously deducting the 2 per cent. assigned to said authorities and Chief of Police, and shall deliver the nett amount into the Revenue Office of the district within the first fifteen days of March and September.

8. The Revenue Office shall, on taking charge of the amount deposited, issue a receipt in duplicate for the same. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors shall remit the duplicates, together with the surplus and useless documents and a corresponding account thereof, to the Superior Civil Government Office.

9. The latter shall furnish, in like form, its account to the Inland Revenue Office in this city.

10. In the cities of the Havana, Matanzas, Santiago de Cuba, and Puerto Principe, the lodgements of funds by the Commissaries and "Celadores" shall be made weekly; the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors placing theirs in the Revenue Offices of the district, within the same period. Said deposits shall be accompanied simply by a statement setting forth in classes the documents issued and those which may be reserved in their possession, deferring the furnishing of a formal account until the periods designated in paragraphs 3 and 6.

11. When any Commissary, "Celador," or Captain shall have been discontinued from his employment before the arrival of the period fixed for the furnishing of the accounts, he shall deliver up to the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor under whose authority he may be, all that may be remaining in his possession, accompanied by a proper account, as specified in the preceding paragraphs, without further difference than that instead of transmitting the documents which remain over and those which are useless, they shall remit a receipt for the same signed by the person who may have taken charge of the employment. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors in like case shall deliver what may remain, if there should be any, into their respective Revenue Office, and shall furnish their account to the Superior Civil Government in the form laid down in this paragraph.

12. In conformity with the resolution of this Government, dated 20th August, the capitacion books must not go out of the Civil Government Office; such measures being adopted by the "Superintendencia" as may be necessary to conciliate this with the rendering of accounts on the part of the administration of the revenue in due form.

Havana, December 10, 1855.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 43.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 30, 1856.)

My Lord, *Havana, December 31, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to report that no emancipated negroes have been sent from this to Jamaica during the present year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 44.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 30.)

My Lord, *Havana, January 1, 1856.*

IN obedience to the Act 5 Geo. IV, cap. 113, directing such Returns to be made on the 1st day of January and the 1st day of July in each year, I have the honour to report that there was no case brought for adjudication before the Mixed Court of Justice at this place, during the last six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 45.

Her Majesty's Acting Commissary Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 5.)

(Extract.) *Havana, January 14, 1856.*

THE Slave Trade during the past year has been carried on with more than its ordinary activity.

Notwithstanding the denial by the Spanish authorities of several of the disembarkations which it has been my duty to denounce, I have no

reason for doubting the correctness of the information upon which I acted in bringing those infractions of the Treaty under the notice of the Captain-General.

I have the honour of laying before your Lordship a statement of the slaves landed, and the numbers captured by the authorities, during the year 1855; by which it appears that 4,806 Bozals were got on shore at various places, of whom 125 were captured, and adding the usual proportion of one-third as a prudent allowance for those imported respecting whom we have had no information, it results that no less than 6,408 have been introduced during the last twelve months, and are held here in slavery.

Besides that number of Africans, 3,012 Chinese, and 416 Yucatan Indians have arrived, so that the labouring hands in Cuba have had an accession, during 1855, of 6,408 slaves, and of 3,428 under contract, making a total of 6,836 available for the agriculture, or on other service, of the island.

For the current year 1856, no less than four of the most powerful houses of Havana have engaged in bringing over Chinese, so that, as I understand, at least 10,000 colonists from China may be expected here.

The project has again been agitated, and is being discussed, of importing free negro labourers from Africa, females if possible, and to the extent of 40,000 or 50,000.

With regard to this, as well as with regard to the continuing and encouraging the importations of Chinese, the opinions of the best informed of the proprietors are diverse, and most of them are apprehensive of danger arising, whether from the one or from the other alternative being had recourse to for supplying labourers.

There is always that great difficulty to be surmounted, the combining of free and slave labour, and then the almost impossibility of avoiding the mixture of negro free colonists with the slaves of the same African nations, which would give rise to the latter becoming apprised, by degrees, of the difference of their condition, and the discontent which would be consequent of awakening them to so lively a sense of their misery could hardly fail to produce effects of the most dangerous description from excited passions which it would be impossible to control.

Upon the other hand, the cunning and superior intelligence of the Chinese, it is apprehended, may produce the most serious consequences, should they accumulate to the extent of giving them room for resisting their masters under any grievance or pretext, since it would be easy for them to induce the slaves to make common cause with them, and bring about such an insurrection of the negroes as it is terrifying to think of here, where their numbers are so predominant.

Under these circumstances, nothing has been decided upon; but the high price of sugar is so strong an inducement to the extending of the culture of cane, that every effort is being made for obtaining hands to form new estates; and if they have not recourse to one or other of the alternatives I have mentioned, the Slave Trade will be carried on with increased activity.

I have no reason for thinking that the expeditions to the coast of Africa during the year 1855 have proceeded from Cuba, as formerly. This has in a great measure been rendered unnecessary, by the facilities the slave-traders have found in fitting out their vessels in the United States, where the craft employed are to be met with cheap and suitable, as well as their fittings and stores much more reasonable in price than here in Cuba; added to which they are subjected to less observation, and run less risk of detection—the masters and crews being easily found to proceed under the direction of an agent or supercargo (usually an experienced slave-trader)—their cargoes being ready waiting their appearance at the given point of embarkation—they arrive there under the American flag, take on board their miserable cargo, and are off so very quickly from the coast that they are seldom fallen in with by the cruizers, or, if they were, they would be found, like the "*Grey Eagle*," without papers of any kind, should there be evidence on board of their slave-trading character.

Such slavers generally, however, escape capture on the coast of

Africa, and they arrive at some place on that of Cuba where advice is waiting them as to the point of landing their cargoes. The parties here who are interested, in the meantime have made arrangements, and the slaves are introduced safely and with impunity. Your Lordship will be able to form some idea of the nature of such arrangements, by the details I am enabled to furnish of what was effected at Santa Cruz, on the south side of the island, when 500 Bozals were landed near that place in August last, viz. :—

				Goll, ounces.
To the Commanding Officer	..	..	..	468
To the Captain of the Port	..	..	..	234
To the Collector of the Port	..	..	..	200
To the Tide-Surveyor ..	..	..	..	200
Total	..	..	..	1,102

This arrangement was made upon 468 slaves, the rest being weak and sickly (rather over 40 dollars a-head), which must be considered a remarkably cheap bargain of its kind.

All this is well known to have taken place, and General Concha superseded the whole of those employés, placing them for trial before the Royal Audiencia for criminal punishment in terms of the Penal Law; but I understand there are not proofs to convict them: his Excellency the present Captain-General has no power to do more than he has done, marking his moral conviction of their infamous conduct by their destitution from the offices they held under his Government.

The measures of the Marquis de la Pezuela at Sancti Spiritus gave a death-blow to the Slave Trade at Zarza, which port being, in consequence, closed to foreign commerce, since that time not one cargo has been run there.

There are numerous slavers to arrive. His Excellency General Concha informs me that he has information of more than one; but that as to one, he has given the most peremptory orders to be on the look-out for her in all directions. I have information that there is a cargo on the coast (south side of the island), which has not been landed already, owing to the parties interested not having been able to obtain the required number of "cedulas" for the protection of the slaves after they have been got safe on shore.

I wish that I could convey to your Lordship any greater assurance of the Slave Trade being put an end to. The Penal Law of Spain, as it is at present, does not reach the parties engaged in the detestable Traffic; and presuming that General Concha is heartily disposed to put it down, his authority is insufficient to punish those whom he may be morally satisfied have engaged in it, or been aiding and abetting in its being carried on.

Inclosure in No. 45.

STATEMENT of the Slaves Landed, and proportion Captured, by the Government Officers, in the Island of Cuba, during the year 1855.

Date.	Where landed.	Landed.	Captured.	Remarks.
1855				
April . . .	Bahia Honda	600	61	
April . . .	Morillo	170	33	
June . . .	Cabañas	480		
June . . .	Sancti Spiritus	450		
August . . .	San Cayetano	510	..	This is denied by the Spanish authorities.
August . . .	Punta de Tejas	350	..	Ditto, but the Bozals were seen by my informant.
August . . .	Santa Cruz	500		
October . . .	Punta de Cartas	..	..	Numbers not known.
October . . .	Mansanillo, estimated at	400	..	Vessel 175 tons.
October . . .	Rio Dominica	400	..	This is denied by the Spanish authorities.
November . . .	San Lazaro del Granadillo	516	31	
December, but landed May 26	Cabañas	430	..	From schooner "Graccus."
		4,806	125	
	Add one-third	1,602		
	Total	6,408		

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

No. 46.

*Her Majesty's Commissioner and Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—
(Received May 25.)*

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
March 26, 1855.*

My Lord,

BY the arrival in Simon's Bay of Her Majesty's brig "Penguin," Captain Etheridge, which left the Mozambique Channel after the close of last year, we are enabled to forward to your Lordship our report upon the state of the Slave Trade on the east coast of Africa during 1854.

In the course of the whole of that period, no vessels engaged in the Traffic have been met with by Her Majesty's cruisers; and we have received no information whatever to justify us in stating that any shipment of slaves, from any of the points whence the Trade is usually carried on, has taken place during the absence of Her Majesty's ships, whose numbers are still quite insufficient to watch that extensive coast with any efficiency.

Under these circumstances, the only source whence an estimate of the number of slaves who may have been exported from the East Coast during 1854 could be framed, would be the returns of slaves imported into slave-holding countries from the Mozambique; but as these returns have not yet reached us, we are unable to afford any information on this head.

No vessels have been brought before the Court of Vice-Admiralty in this colony during 1854; and the only case before that tribunal is the claim of the owner of the "*Arabe*," detained in 1839, and lost at sea, to a certain amount of money found on board, and lodged in the hands of the Naval Storekeeper by the captors. This matter, upon which, as directed by your Lordship's despatch of July 13, 1853, we have kept our attention, is still undecided, and awaits some movement on behalf of the claimant's proctor.

But while the ordinary Slave Trade, if it is still carried on, has escaped notice, it appears that negroes have been exported from the Portuguese dominions to Madagascar; and thence, under the denomination of free labourers, to the French Settlements. We had the honour, in our report of 1852, to mention that attempts of this nature had failed, both at Mozambique and at Zanzibar, and we believe that the Portuguese Governor-General has so far evinced a disposition to check the system within his jurisdiction, that he has asked the assistance of Her Majesty's cruisers for the purpose.

We regret the less our inability to furnish more precise information as to this matter, as we have also learned that it has been represented to your Lordship by Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar.

By the French man-of-war steamer "Marséan," Captain La Motte, lately arrived at this port from St. Paul's de Loanda, our colleague the Chevalier Du Prat received a letter, dated in August last, from Dr. Livingston, who, as your Lordship is already aware, succeeded in reaching the Portuguese Settlements in the month of April last year.

It being rumoured that the papers and maps containing the particulars of Dr. Livingston's journey were lost in the African mail-steamer "Forerunner," we deem it our duty to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the letter in question, and an abstract of a communication made by Dr. Livingston to Mr. Astronomer-Royal Maclear, of this Colony, about the same date; and we may add, that Mr. Maclear is about to forward to the Royal Geographical Society in London, a corrected copy of a paper of positions determined by Dr. Livingston in 1853 and 1854, and a map framed by Dr. Livingston, of his route.

Dr. Livingston mentions his hope of leaving Loanda, on his return journey, towards the end of August; and it appears from a letter written by his father-in-law, Dr. Moffat, from Kuruman on the 6th of February, that supplies had been lodged at Linyanti, where Dr. Moffat found that Dr. Livingston was expected in December last; but as the journey to the West Coast occupied about six months, the fact of Dr. Livingston's not having arrived at the time of Dr. Moffat's visit, is not calculated to increase the anxiety which must always be felt for the success of Dr. Livingston.

The statements of Dr. Livingston with respect to the Traffic in Slaves carried on by the native tribes of the interior with the Portuguese Settlements, which we have already reported to your Lordship, are fully confirmed; the exactions which the natives levied upon Dr. Livingston, and his party, being accounted for, as the effects of the visits of Portuguese half-caste traders, who submit to every species of extortion in order to induce the Chiefs to part with their people as slaves.

With regard to the existence of Slave Trade among the Boers to the north-east of the colony, we have to report that occasionally cases are mentioned in the public prints, but such rumours cannot be acted upon, without confirmation, which it is out of our power to attain.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEO. FRERE.

FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Dr. Livingston to the Chevalier Du Prat.

My dear Sir,

Cassange, April 9, 1854.

AS I shall have very little time to spend in writing in Loanda, because I have but a light purse to meet the wants of a crowd of hungry followers, and I have several matters which I wish to bring before you, I commence an epistle now, while detained by rains in the country of the Cassange.

Our progress from Sebituane's country hither has been unusually slow in consequence of the flooded state of the country. We proceeded up the Leeba till we were in the vicinity of a cataract, then left the canoes and went to the town of Kabompo or Aihinté on ox-back. I got a sight of a star here and found our latitude to be 13° ; the Cazembe lies east-south-east of this, and is visited by the people of Kabompo for the purpose of purchasing copper rings. I made many inquiries about Pereira's visit, and found an old man who had heard of a white man who came to the Cazembe and returned again to the east. Pereira's own route as laid down in Bowdich is the correct one, and the other to Roa or Loi, drawn by Colonel Lacerda from native information, is not that by which, nor that the place to which Pereira travelled. It is probable if one should visit Cazembe many old men would remember him. After leaving Kabompo we travelled through a country at that season greatly encumbered by water, and to the westward of it are situated the plains of Lobale, which were reported impassable from the same cause. We crossed three or four streams every day, and these seem to be perennial, for rustic bridges were generally thrown across them. These did not help us much, for they were submerged, so that when using them we were waist deep in water. Some we had to swim, and the perpetual drenching either from rains or rivers gave me the fever again and again. The country is fertile in the extreme. The Boers' Eden, Magaliesberg, is nothing to it. My people lamented over the uncultivated valleys perpetually in such phrases as these, "What valleys for corn," "Such a country for cattle, my heart is sore to see it lying waste," &c. Near the rivulets and rivers dense forests exist. A small path winding through thick groves of gigantic timber, bound together by parasitical plants of from one inch to three or four inches in diameter, is all the means of conveyance offered for the commerce of the country. If we were not on the look-out a climbing plant would catch one by the throat, and if an attempt was made to stop the ox, on he rushed the faster, and as our heads cracked on the ground he not seldom administered an effective kick by way of showing, I suppose, "there was no love lost between us." The trees are straight as arrows, and, were there water carriage, might be a source of wealth. They are all covered with white moss, and ferns abounding among them show the humidity of the climate to be such as we know nothing of to the southward. The country may be said to be quite flat, only there exists the appearance of waves lying

generally in a north-west or north-north-west direction. The ridge of the wave is only a few feet higher than the trough, but is covered with forest; the valley, with fine hay, has generally either a stream or bog in its centre: the streams could with ease be turned out for the purpose of irrigation.

The population is large. We came upon a village every few miles, and the villagers seemed greatly at their ease. The manioc is the staff of life with them, and it requires but little labour for cultivation. They sow maize, beans, earth-nuts, pumpkins, and various vegetables, to me unknown; they seem to feel the want of animal food much, for every thing of the sort is eagerly sought after—traps of all kinds for birds, mice, moles, &c., are constantly seen, and hives for the bees are planted all through the forest. We were treated civilly by them until we came to the vicinity of the Portuguese Settlements. The nearer the worse; all manner of extortion was practised, and at last no passage could be procured without paying enormous fines. The Chiboque were the worst; sometimes surrounding us and brandishing their short swords and guns over our heads, they demanded one thing after another, until it looked more like robbery than paying dues. We had to part with our riding-oxen, and then by way of showing their generosity they would give three or four pounds of the meat to us. I had to part with all my clothes, and the men of Sekeletu with their ornaments, for we were unprepared for such extortion. We could have beaten them off sometimes, but were determined to let them shed the first drop of blood. We turned out of our way in order to avoid the Chiboque. Hence I am up here, having made so much nothing and very little westing. At last coming to the River Quango or Coango, we were for the last time brought to a halt by the demand for a man, an ox, &c., or “you must go back whence you came;” when a young half-blood Portuguese serjeant made his appearance and helped us out of all our difficulties. Had he been my own son he could not have acted a kinder part. I was fully prepared to part with my bedding in order to get over the Quango, and was only in trouble lest it should not be deemed sufficient, for the ferry-men invariably break their bargains—stop when nearly all the people are over, then make a fresh demand. But thanks to Cypriano de Abreussantos, we got over reasonably, and then everything he could do for us he most generously did without fee or reward. I suspect your good offices have had some influence, and though I cannot repay, I shall not soon forget, your kindness.

I shall now give you an outline of what I conceive would in the course of a few years materially increase the commerce of the Western Colonies. And first of all, a road in a south-eastern direction from the principal mart of trade by which small Scotch carts, drawn by mules or oxen, could travel. Each of these could carry as much as twenty-five or thirty carriers, and the road would not require one-fifth of the money spent in such undertakings in the Cape Colony. All that would be necessary would be 200 or 300 of the militia, to each of whom fatigue-duty pay might be granted if working on the road, and contributions of native labour paid for by the cheap manufactures common in the country. With these fifteen miles a-day could be made, for there is no blasting of rocks required. The chief obstacles are forest, bogs, and rivulets. The forest can, in many cases, be avoided, by following the side of the wave instead of going across it; and materials for strong rustic bridges and transverse trees laid down as roads over the bogs are always at hand. The advantages of this road would be very numerous. I mention a few. At present parties of natives set out for the market, and are treated as we have seen, losing all and obliged to return home without anything. The border tribes generally compel those whom they do not rob to sell their goods at very low prices. Now if it were known that this road was free to all, and the property, of “Moene Put,” (Lord of Portugal,) and a great crime to stop any one passing along it, the stimulus which free access to the market imparts to the actual producer would not be lost as now. An example or two, as in the case of the Cassenge who killed a Portuguese, and were promptly punished, would be sufficient to effect all that is necessary to render it secure; caravansaries could be erected at very small expense at different points where materials are so abundant, and the trader by sending notice to the different Chiefs along the route, would in a short time secure all the marketable commodities near. The Chiefs might be induced to keep the road in repair by annual presents of cattle from the Governor, as in the case of the Indians in Canada, North America. These would not interfere with the goods now in use by the traders, and would in time supply the great defect in the country—the want of animal food; while visits to their “Great Father” annually or triennially would cement that friendship which ought to exist between the Governor and them. To the trader there would be an immense saving of time and expense. They could go much further than under the present system. New articles of export could be introduced. American cotton may be seen everywhere rotting on the trees; the people make very little use of it. Castor oil is used for anointing the head only. The manioc root is nearly all starch, and, growing so luxuriantly, this article could be produced much more cheaply than where wheat or potatoes are used. Many other articles will suggest themselves to your mind, but there is one which eminently deserves a trial. The country to which I refer chiefly is an elevated table-land resembling Natal and the country of the Boers of Pretorius. Wheat will not grow in the low fertile plains of Natal, while on the elevated land above it may be produced, perhaps, more easily than anywhere else in the world. Now, when we come near the Quango we descend from what appears to be a lofty sierra, and on the fertile plains alone, if I am not misinformed, has wheat been attempted to be grown; hence all the wheat eaten has to be imported. It would be worth much to ascertain if wheat cannot be grown on the elevated lands to which I have referred, for a people not wheat-fed want stamina. Pap made of the meal of the manioc quickly leaves the stomach with a sense of emptiness, and apart from this does not furnish the material by which muscle is formed. It is thus to be expected the colonists and their children will be wanting in muscular development and enterprise. As a lover of all ranks and degrees of my fellow men, I believe this subject deserves the serious attention of your Government, and mean to present a memorial to the Governor on the subject; I shall let you know the result.

Loanda, 15th August.—I have been detained here a long time by sickness, but am nearly well again. I intend to leave this about the 20th. I have experienced great kindness from all parties, from the Bishop downwards.

Believe me, ever yours faithfully,

DAVID LIVINGSTON.

The Government here offered a conto of reis to any one who would accompany some Arabs or Moors to the east coast. Nobody went. Pity I am a foreigner; I suppose I would be excluded from competition.

Inclosure 2 in No. 46.

Abstract of Communication from Dr. Livingston to Mr. Maclear.

WE are happy to inform the public that a communication has been received by Mr. Maclear, from the Rev. Dr. Livingston, part of which was written on the banks of the Quango or Coango river, on the 7th of April, 1854, on his way to Loanda; the remainder of it at Loanda, dated June 8 and August 15 respectively.

The greater part of the despatch consists of astronomical observations for geographical positions, on the route from Sekelutu's Town on the Leambey river to Loanda, which this talented missionary and explorer had managed to make, though suffering from ill health and privations, such as few men have encountered, much less could surmount. He says:—

"Repeated attacks of intermittent fever, from sleeping in wet clothes, made me excessively weak, but I never laid up for that. When we approached the Portuguese Settlements, the tribes became worse—would not let us pass without enormous fines. I was unprepared for this, and had to part with nearly all my clothes, food, &c., and have endured the most unmerciful hunger in consequence. Sometimes they surrounded us and brandished their guns, swords, &c., about our heads, and took our riding oxen, giving us two or three pounds of the meat back, by way of showing their generosity. I think they would have come off second best had it come to blows, for the people of Sebetuane, with whom alone I travel, are accustomed to bloody work; but we determined to allow them to shed the first drops of blood. When our goods were done, they were just as unreasonable. 'Give me that; you may as well do it, for I will get it to-morrow, after we have killed you all.' We then took the other plan, and in reply to their taunts, 'you must go back whence you came,' replied, 'we shall go forward, and if we die, we die.' We were all chafed in mind, and were sincerely thankful to see a young, half-blood Portuguese serjeant make his appearance, and rescue us from further trouble.

"I think the reason why the people hereabouts are so very unreasonable is, it is the slave-market, and they are accustomed to the visits of many bastards engaged in that way. They submit to every sort of exaction in order to induce the Chiefs to part with their people. It seems a forced trade.

"The country through which we have passed is fertile in the extreme, surpassing in many parts the Boerish Eden, Magaliesberg. It is everywhere intersected by streams, the size of which we could not well ascertain on account of the flooded state of the country. Large plains were filled with clear water flowing fast to different rivers; yet not discoloured on account of the dense mat of grass with which the plains are covered. This must be the water of inundation of the Barotze and other parts. Dense forests, too, are met with everywhere, through which we with difficulty passed on ox-back.

"The above is an epitome of our travels hitherto. We are now on what the Portuguese consider their territory. We shall proceed to the Cassangé to-morrow. They are west of us, and the next movement will be towards Loanda."

One of the most interesting localities on this route is a small lake called Dîlolo, never before visited. It is supposed to be six or seven miles broad at the widest part, and perhaps ten long. He took observations for its position.

"The country from Kabompo's northward, seems an elevated table-land. The rhododendron and large Cape heath, which are seen near the Cape at the Cushman mountains (northern slope), and again at Kabompo's, may perhaps be viewed as an evidence of this. When we come within thirty miles of the Quango, we suddenly descend a height which seems a little higher than the "Devil's Kop" does from your house. The plain below contains bamboo and many trees new to us. Hosts of mosquitos inhabit the banks of the Quango, while on the elevation we had few or none. I am afraid we cannot bring Mrs. L. through this region.

"The Portuguese do everything by means of carriers. One trader has from 60 to 100 of these to transport him and his goods. What to do I am at a loss to conceive. Sekelutu's people have come all the way, and parted with all their ornaments to secure a passage, without a grumble. They are anxious to open up a trade, but whether we will be successful I cannot tell."

From Loanda, June 8, he writes as follows:—

"In my first sheet I have given most of the observations I had been able to make previous to reaching the Portuguese territory called Cassangé. This is the farthest possession of the Portuguese inland from Loanda, and is likely to become a most important mart of trade. They fought two years before they could obtain possession, and the people are only beginning to return to their former place of residence. Cassangé is forty or fifty miles west of the River Quango or Coango.

"The Coango, in 9° 50' latitude, was observed flowing due north. The Casai (Kasye), or Loké, was crossed in latitude 11° 16', flowing north-east and north-north-east. By the reports of intelligent natives, I find that these two rivers join the River Zaire or Congo of Captain Tuckey. All the Portuguese traders who have made inquiry in the country north of Cassangé, confirm the accounts of the natives of that country. So when speaking of the Quango in native style, I can call it a child of the Zairé, and no longer a bastard.

"At Cassangé my attacks of fever were very severe, but I managed to work out some of the observations, and found its longitude 17° 43' east (error excepted).

"The path from Cassangé to Loanda lies east and west until we reach a small village called Gio (pronounced Geoo); the latitude being 9° 39' there.

"The next lunar was taken at Golungo Alto, one of the most important districts of the colony. The residence of the Commandant is situated about midway between Amboca, 9° 16' 35" south latitude, and Loanda. Golungo Alto stands in latitude 9° 8' 30" south. Here I took the following lunars on May 19. * * *

"I regret very much that I cannot give you a rough sketch of the country along with this,* but the steamer is expected daily, and I have to write almost constantly, in order to be ready for the mail to Ascension.

* He did, however, send a sketch.—T. M.

"I am very weak in consequence of having suffered severely by fever and its attendants in the way between this and Cassangé, but hope to get up again before I go back to the Zambesé.

"I wrote to you by the traders called Chapman and Thompson, and hoped to have found a letter waiting for me here. As none of my friends have written to me here, I supposed they believed I would fail in reaching Loanda. But here I am, and have found most kind friends in a Mr. Gabriel, our Commissioner, and the English officers in port. The English traders with me from the interior country, twenty-seven in number, have been delighted with the city, shipping, &c., and were well received by the Bishop, who is at present the Acting Governor here.

"I intend going down the Zambesé to the East Coast, instead of coming back here, in order to embark for England."

"Loanda, August 15.—I have been detained here by fever till now, but expect to leave for the interior on the 20th current."

The preceding extracts comprehend all that Dr. Livingston's communication contains, excepting the astronomical observations and the explanations connected with them. It was reported in the public papers some weeks back, that his despatches for England were lost in the vessel: they were sent by (the "Forerunner"?); if so, the copy of the astronomical observations, sent to Mr. Maclear, will supply the essential matter to be communicated to the Royal Geographical Society.

The herculean task this noble explorer has chalked out for himself, of crossing Africa from Loanda on the west, to perhaps Quillimane on the east; and this, too, in his state of health; must be regarded with intense anxiety for his safety.

No. 47.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 17.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
July 2, 1855.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report that Mr. Frere, Her Majesty's Commissioner, having received your Lordship's permission to visit England on leave of absence, gave over charge of his office to me on the 28th ultimo, and has since sailed for Europe.

His departure has been entered on the Minutes of the Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

No. 48.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 17.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
July 2, 1855.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that no case has been adjudicated by the Mixed Commission of which I am a member, during the half-year ending June 30, 1855.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

No. 49.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
October 18, 1855.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch, addressed to Her Majesty's Commissioners, dated July 13, 1853, respecting a vessel called the "*Arabe*," captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Modeste*," Captain Eyres, in the year 1839, on suspicion of Slave Trade; and in which your Lordship directed us to furnish your Lordship with "any information with reference to this capture which we might be able to collect," I have now the honour to state, that judgment was given in this case in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony, on the 4th day of September last, by Sir John Wylde.

His Honour pronounced:—

That the captors had failed in proving that the vessel was engaged in the Slave Trade; that although there were twenty-six negroes on board when captured, who were slaves, they were not slaves within the meaning of the Slave Trade Acts; and, by interlocutory decree, that the sum of 3,500 dollars, being 700*l.* sterling, stated to have been taken out of the vessel after capture, be paid to Francisco Maria Azevedo, the claimant in the case.

Respecting the vessel herself, and the goods and merchandise on board at the time of capture, inasmuch as she had been lost, after her seizure, without default of the captor, no decree was pronounced.

It was further decreed that the seizure had not been wantonly or improperly made, but, on the contrary, with reasonable and probable cause; and that the costs in the case be paid from the moneys found on board the vessel.

I have, &c.
(Signed) **FREDERIC R. SURTEES.**

No. 50.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 26, 1856.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
December 1, 1855.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that reports having reached me, that kidnapping children of the Bushmen and other native tribes, was still continued by the Boers on the north-eastern frontiers of this Colony, I thought it advisable, on the recent return to Cape Town of Sir George Grey from Natal, to wait on his Excellency, in order to ascertain whether he could give me any reliable information respecting them.

The reports, similar in nature to those hitherto transmitted from this Commission, were to the effect that the Boers of the Trans-Vaal territory, whose independence has been recognized by Her Majesty's Government, obtained a supply of labour by seizing the children of the natives when young, and subjecting them to "an involuntary servitude," which is called an apprenticeship, or "inboeking" system, until the age of 25 for a male, and 22 for a female. That provision is made by law of their Volksraad, for the "inboeking" of all captives taken in war, and that that law provides that servants should not be transferred by sale from one master to another, but is constantly disregarded, and that it is a matter of every-day practice and notoriety that a regular sale of these indentured servants takes place, at the rate of 10*l.* to 15*l.* each; and further that the "injeboekte" is not limited to captives of war; for "that parties of Boers proceed to the Drakenburg, and barter with the native Bushmen at the rate of a cow for a child;" these children being treated similarly to those secured in war.

His Excellency informed me that these rumours were not without foundation, and were about to be brought by him before Her Majesty's Government, and he handed me a copy of a proclamation on the subject, lately issued by Pretorius, one of the District Commandants of the Trans-Vaal territory; which document, referring to the fact that kidnapping of natives had taken place, ordered the children so taken to be brought back, and forbade the offence in future.

A copy of this proclamation I have the honour to inclose.

His Excellency added, that it had been stated that some of Her Majesty's subjects had been engaged in these transactions. Upon this, I pressed strongly the propriety of issuing, both at this Colony and at Natal, notifications of the Act of Parliament 6 & 7 Vict, cap. 98, which, extending the provisions of the Consolidated Slave Trade Act, makes it illegal for any British subject to be concerned in Slave Trade, in any part of the world, whether within or without Her Majesty's dominions; and I suggested that some offer of cooperation might be made to the Trans-Vaal

Government, with an expression of gratification on the part of the Colonial Government at the proclamation that had been issued.

I stated further, that the existence of the Slave Traffic in the Trans-Vaal territory would necessarily be known in the Portuguese possessions of the Mozambique; and its effects would tend to strengthen the Slave Trade interest there, and thus, in a great measure, nullify the efforts made by Her Majesty's Government to put an end, not only to Slave Trade, but slavery, in pursuance of the recommendation made by the Portuguese Chamber of Peers, for which a project of law in Portugal had been attempted to be passed.

I need scarcely assure your Lordship that Sir George Grey is most fully alive to the importance of the subject, and desirous to deal with it; but unfortunately it is attended with many difficulties. It appears that his Excellency is advised that, however disgraceful the system in question is, it is not such a Traffic as is provided for by the Slave Trade Acts, or could be suppressed under their enactments; and consequently, he is unwilling to call attention to the Slave Trade Acts in connexion with a Traffic for which they provide no punishment, and which they do not even recognize as a legal offence.

As regards any offer to cooperate with the Trans-Vaal Government, his Excellency stated that such is the condition of public affairs there, he should not know to whom to address it.

I pressed his Excellency for a copy of the legal opinion that had been given him on this question, or that part of it which he read to me, for I stated my conviction that its doctrine could not be maintained; but supposing his Excellency felt bound to adhere to it until he should receive further directions from Her Majesty's Government, I requested him to issue, at any rate, some general notification that the Traffic was opposed to the moral feelings, not only of Great Britain, but of all civilized Europe, and would meet with general abhorrence when known.

At a subsequent interview his Excellency placed in my hands several papers relating to a Commission which had lately proceeded from the Trans-Vaal to inquire into these matters; the result of which, so far as it goes, establishes a system on the part of the Boers of kidnapping children from the Bushmen and other natives; and, as his Excellency invited my opinion upon them, I am about to give him a memorandum which I am drawing up, and a copy of which I shall not fail to lay before your Lordship.

Before closing this despatch I beg respectfully to call your Lordship's attention to the following facts:—

A reference to the despatches from this Commission will show that the subject has been reported in the year 1848, on the 21st August; in 1851, on the 2nd January; in 1852, on the 20th February; in 1853, on the 15th February; in 1854, on the 27th March; and this year, on the 26th March.

In 1852 a Treaty was concluded betwixt Sir George Cathcart and the Trans-Vaal Boers, when, their independence being recognized, one of the Articles stipulated that slavery should not exist in the Trans-Vaal territory, but the Treaty omitted to provide any mode by which the stipulation was to be enforced.

Since the conclusion of that Treaty, as before, it has been constantly rumoured throughout this Colony that the children of the Bushmen and other natives were kept in slavery by the Boers, sometimes being obtained by barter, but often by force. The Proclamation of Pretorius has now established the fact.

I am bound to state to your Lordship my conviction that this evil, so long unchecked, and at length openly acknowledged, as it is of no light character, is one that calls for a speedy remedy.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Proclamation.

I, MARTHINUS WESSELS PRETORIUS, Commandant-General, having information that, in contravention of the laws existing here, native children are exported to other places, do hereby proclaim, that the aforesaid exportation of children, under what pretence soever, is, from this day forward, prohibited and forbidden by me, in the most positive manner.

And I further proclaim, that all persons who have been, are, or may become, guilty of the above-named transgression of the laws of this country, are hereby warned and called upon: 1. To bring back the native children already exported; 2. To abstain, from this day forward, from all infraction of the laws of the country.

And I proclaim further, that should it appear that any person or persons have been guilty, before or after this proclamation, of the aforesaid exportation of native children, such parties shall be indicted and prosecuted according to law, by the proper authorities, and punished accordingly.

Given under my hand, at Magaliesberg, this 30th day of July, 1855.

God save the Volksraad!

(Signed) M. W. PRETORIUS,
Commandant-General.

No. 51.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
January 2, 1856.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no case has been adjudicated by the Mixed Commission of which I am a member during the half-year ending December 31, 1855.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

No. 52.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
January 2, 1856.*

My Lord,

IN pursuance of the instructions given to Her Majesty's Commissioners, in the Earl of Aberdeen's despatch of February 20, 1843, by which they were directed to transmit, at the close of each year, a detailed report of the judicial proceedings before this Mixed Commission during that period, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that no case has been adjudicated by the Court during the year ending December 31, 1855.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

No. 53.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
January 4, 1856.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a report, drawn up by the Mixed Commission of which I am a member, in compliance with the provisions of Article XI, Annex B to the Treaty of July 3, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, relating—

1st. To the cases which have been brought before the Court for adjudication;

2ndly. To the state of the liberated negroes;

3rdly. To the treatment and progress made in the religious and mechanical education of the liberated negroes.

I have also the honour to inform your Lordship that my Portuguese colleagues are about to transmit a duplicate original of this report to the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

Inclosure in No. 53.

Report of the Mixed Commission for 1855.

IN pursuance of Article XI of Annex B to the Treaty concluded on the 3rd July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, by which it is stipulated that the Mixed Commissions shall transmit annually to each Government a report, relating—

1. To the cases which have been brought before them for adjudication ;
2. To the state of the liberated negroes ;
3. To every information which they may be able to obtain respecting the treatment, and the progress made in the religious and mechanical education, of the liberated negroes ;

The Undersigned, members of the Mixed Commission established at the Cape of Good Hope, have the honour to report to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and to the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, that no case has been brought before them for adjudication during the year ending December 31, 1855 ; and that no negroes have been emancipated by decree of this Mixed Commission since its establishment.

(Signed)

FREDERIC R. SURTEES.
LUIS CARLOS REBELLO.
A. P. DUPRAT.
JAMES R. MACLEAY, Registrar.

*Mixed British and Portuguese Commission,
Cape Town, January 2, 1856.*

No. 54.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

*Mixed Commission Chambers, Cape Town,
January 4, 1856.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the Annual Report of this Commission on the Slave Trade for the year 1855.

The recent arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Frolic" in Simon's Bay, from the east coast, has put me in possession of intelligence up to the early part of December last. I have not ascertained that there has been any exportation of slaves from the Mozambique during the whole of last year ; neither has there been any quantity of slaves awaiting exportation along the entire extent of coast, as far as I can learn.

The reports I have received respecting the Imaum of Muscat's territory, where some years ago large barracoons existed, are of a like negative character. Whilst, however, the "Frolic" was lately at Zanzibar, four vessels arrived full of slaves, intended for the Imaum, from Quiloa chiefly, and other parts of the coast not far from Zanzibar. It is just possible that a number of these negroes may find their way to the northward, and other places out of the Imaum's dominions, by driblets.

As any Slave Trade carried on from the east coast would probably be directed to Cuba, I have inquired whether any Spanish vessels are known to have been on that coast ; but I cannot ascertain that the Spanish flag has been seen there at all last year.

The number of cruisers on this station, usually small when considered with reference to the extent of coast to be watched, has been further reduced by the loss of Her Majesty's ship "Nerbudda," supposed to have foundered in a gale.

One case only has been brought before the Court of Vice-Admiralty during the year past, namely, that of the "Arabe," detained by Her Majesty's ship "Modeste" in the year 1839. The Court decreed that the captors had failed in proving that the vessel was engaged in the Slave

Trade; but that, as the seizure had not been wantonly or improperly made, but, on the contrary, with reasonable and probable cause, the costs should be paid from the moneys found on board the vessel. A full report of the judgment pronounced in this case I had the honour to address to your Lordship in my despatch of the 18th of October last.

Associated as the name of Dr. Livingston is with South African exploration, and consequently with the cause of extinction of slavery, I should not omit to state to your Lordship that it was generally expected here that he would have returned to this Colony in Her Majesty's ship "Frolic," having arrived, as was hoped, at Quilimane, on his return overland from Angola, ere that vessel left. On her last arrival at Quilimane, December 8th, the Portuguese Governor had just arrived from Tette (about a month's easy journey down the river to Quilimane, and through which it would be necessary for Dr. Livingston to pass on his way), but nothing had been then heard of him since he left Loanda. The Governor had made arrangements for rendering him every assistance in his power towards the prosecution of his journey, so soon as he should reach the Portuguese possessions.

Whilst the cessation of all foreign Slave Trade in these parts is thus, so far as is known, satisfactory, I regret to have to report that a system of internal traffic in natives, and of holding them in slavery, undoubtedly exists to a considerable extent amongst the Boers on the north-eastern borders of this Colony. The parties implicated are principally the Boers of the Trans-Vaal territory, whose independence was acknowledged a few years ago in a Treaty concluded with them by the late Sir George Cathcart; but it may be questioned whether British subjects also have not occasionally been concerned in such transactions in disregard of the Imperial Slave Trade Acts. In the Treaty referred to, express stipulation was made that there should be no slavery in the Trans-Vaal Republic. It has been customary, therefore, with those concerned, to justify this native servitude as an "inboeking" or apprenticeship system; though by what right the exercise of even such a power could accrue, I am at loss to state.

During the past year, however, a proclamation was issued by one of the District Commandants of that Republic, and signed by him, in which, stating that an exportation of native children had taken place against law, a similar infraction was forbidden for the future. In previous despatches I have had the honour to address your Lordship on this subject at length. It is unnecessary, therefore, to add more than to repeat the expression of my conviction that that proclamation is not at all likely to check this system of slavery and internal Slave Trade that now actually exists on a portion of the frontiers of this Colony.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERIC R. SURTEES.

LOANDA.

No. 55.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, January 2, 1855.

WE have the honour to report, for the information of your Lordship, that there have been no cases adjudicated in the British and Portuguese Court of Mixed Commission established in this city during the last half-year.

We have, &c.
(Signed) **GEORGE JACKSON.**
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 56.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, January 2, 1855.

IN pursuance of the General Instructions, we have the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, a certified Return, in translation, of the slaves emancipated and registered by the Mixed Commission Court in this city up to the end of the year 1854.

We have, &c.
(Signed) **GEORGE JACKSON.**
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 56.

REGISTER of SLAVES, natives of Africa, liberated by the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission established in this city of St. Paul de Loanda.

Vessel in which Captured.	Number of Male Slaves.	Dates of Liberation.	Number of Slaves Liberated.	Observations.	In the enjoyment of complete Liberty.	Dead.	Absconded.
Portuguese boat, name unknown	4	Sentence, Mar. 29, 1845	4	Enlisted in the Portuguese navy.			
Portuguese launch Fortuna	20	Sentence, Mar. 27, 1843	20	2 enlisted in the provincial land forces, and 12 in charge of the Colonial Go- vernment, and placed in the establish- ment of Public Works.	2	3	1

Slaves liberated in 1845	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	4
Ditto in 1848	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	20

Total number of Slaves liberated up to 31st December, 1854	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	24
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

Liberated Slaves deceased in 1851—of natural death	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	2
Ditto ditto of violent death	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	1
Ditto. Absconded	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	1
Ditto. In the enjoyment of full liberty	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	2
Ditto. Existing on the 31st December, 1854	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	18

(Signed) **GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY, Curator.**
St. Paul de Loanda, December 31, 1854.

No. 57.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 9, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th of December last,* reporting a conversation which had taken place between Her Majesty's Commissioner and the Acting Governor-General of Angola, relative to the practice of transferring slaves from Benguella to Angola, in merchant-vessels, in larger numbers than is permitted by the Vth Article of the Treaty of 1842; and I have, in reply, to inform you that I approve the language made use of by Sir G. Jackson upon that occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 58.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 9, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th December, 1854,† inclosing a translation of a Portaria which was issued on the 18th November last by the Acting Governor-General of Angola, respecting the conveyance of casks on board merchant-vessels; and I have in reply to instruct you to state to the Acting Governor-General that Her Majesty's Government, viewing this measure as a proof of his sincerity in putting down the Slave Trade, desire to express their satisfaction to his Excellency.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 59.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th December, 1854,‡ and I have in reply to express to you my approval of your having obtained permission from the Acting Governor-General to insert in the "Official Boletim" the despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, with its inclosure, respecting the condemnation of the American slaver "*Glamorgan*," which were inclosed in my despatch to you of the 29th July, 1854.§

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 60.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 30th December, 1854,|| I have to inform you that I approve of Sir George Jackson having refused to attend the official reception of the so-called Ambassadors from the King of Molembo, to which he was invited by the General Government of Loanda.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Class A, presented 1855, No. 86.

† Ibid., No. 88.

§ Ibid., No. 63.

‡ Ibid., No. 87.

|| Ibid., No. 91.

No. 61.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th December last;* and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of Sir G. Jackson's having reminded the Acting Governor-General of the termination of the period of grace which had been allowed to Francisco Flores before being expelled from Angola.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 62.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 23, 1855.

WE have the honour to inclose herewith the joint Report of the British and Portuguese Commissioners, which the XIth Article of Annex B to the Treaty makes it incumbent upon them to transmit annually to each Government.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure in No. 62.

Report of the Mixed Commission for 1854.

My Lord,

Loanda, February 23, 1855.

WE have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the Report which, in conformity with the XIth Article of Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, it is the duty of this Commission to make annually to each of the respective Governments.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON,
*Commissioner on the part of Her
Britannic Majesty.*GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY,
*Commissioner on the part of Her Most
Faithful Majesty.*

Report for the year 1854, which the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission established in this city of St. Paul de Loanda, in virtue of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, concluded between Great Britain and Portugal, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, is to transmit to each of the respective Governments, in conformity with the XIth Article of Annex B to the said Treaty.

1.—*Cases submitted for Adjudication.*

In the above year, 1854, there was no case submitted to this Mixed Commission for adjudication.

2.—*Condition of the Liberated Negroes.*

1. The four negroes who were liberated by sentence of this Mixed Commission of the 29th March, 1845, are known to the Commission to be enlisted in the Portuguese Naval Service.

2. The thirteen negroes remaining of the twenty liberated by sentence of the Mixed Commission of the 27th March, 1848, are known to be still under the charge of this Colonial Government.

3.—*Information respecting the Liberated Negroes.*

1. It is known that the four liberated negroes who enlisted in the Portuguese Naval Service, having served many years, were in the year 1854, sent on duty to Lisbon on board vessels belonging to the State, in order to their accounts being there liquidated.

2. That of the thirteen liberated negroes under the charge of this Colonial Government, one of them is still missing; that ten apply themselves to learning various trades, and that two are employed in manual labour, for want of aptitude and will for any other employment.

3. It is known that all the libertos receive the same treatment which other libertos under the same charge receive, and that they have the food proper for negroes, and in abundance.

Hall of Sessions of the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Loanda.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON,
*Commissioner on the part of Her
Britannic Majesty.*GUILHERME CYPRIANO DEMONY,
*Commissioner on the part of Her Most
Faithful Majesty.*

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 28, 1855.

IN our despatch of the 1st December, 1854,* we had the honour to report the seizure by Captain Rodovalho, the Commandant of the Portuguese naval station, of 194 slaves, whom he found in irons, and ready to be shipped, at an establishment in the neighbourhood of Equimina, and that he had been instructed from hence to submit the case to the local judicial authorities at Benguella.

2. We adverted further in that despatch to the efforts which were making to prove that the negroes so seized were not intended for Slave Traffic, and we have now, we regret to say, to add that those efforts have been but too successful.

3. In a very long and laboured sentence, dated the 15th of January, the Juiz de Direito of Benguella declared the seizure in question to be "null and unsustainable," and ordered the slaves and the irons in which they were found to be restored to their owners.

4. The captor had justified the seizure on three distinct grounds:—

1st. On the fact of these slaves, of which the majority were children, being found chained, showing that they were not, therefore, destined for the use of the estate;

2ndly. On the confession of those in whose charge they were. And,

3rdly. On the declaration of the slaves themselves.

5. With regard to the first ground, the sentence denies the justness of the conclusion; maintains that slave-irons constitute no indication of intention of Slave Traffic, unless found on board a vessel; that there is no law classifying such indications ashore; and that the traffic in, and transport of, slaves by land, whether kept in chains or not—*i. e.*, their being bought and sold, and transferred from one part of the province or Portuguese territory to another—is as legal as the buying or selling of any kind of cattle, and will continue to be so, so long as slavery exists, as it now does, *de jure* and *de facto*.

6. With regard to the second ground, the sentence declares, first, the denial, by the parties said to have made it, of any such confession; and, secondly, assumes that, supposing it to have been made at the moment of seizure, it was not spontaneous, but most probably coerced in the first moments of surprise and alarm, and perhaps influenced by the hope of saving some by the sacrifice of a part.

7. As respects the third ground, viz., the declaration of the slaves themselves, the Judge characterises them as "vile and despicable beings," whose testimony is inadmissible. He further rejects that of the captor and his officers as "suspicious;" they having, he says, an interest in making good the validity of their seizure, while, at the same time, he admits the evidence of the owners and parties interested in the establishment.

8. As soon as this sentence was pronounced it was immediately appealed against, and the individual under whose charge the slaves were found, Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, who had been confined in the fortress, but who, upon its promulgation, was at once set at liberty, was ordered to be again taken into custody. Eight days' grace were, however, granted him, at the end of which, as was to be expected, he was nowhere to be found. In the meantime, Captain Rodovalho himself sailed for Benguella, for the purpose of securing the slaves pending the appeal, and returned here two days ago, bringing with him 252 negroes of both sexes, but chiefly children.

This number was made up of the 194 seized at Equimina, and of the 107 whose capture we reported in our despatch of the 30th March, 1854;† 27 of the latter and 20 of the former having disappeared.

9. These negroes have been placed provisionally at the establishment

* Class A, presented 1855, No. 85.

† Ibid., No. 61.

of Public Works in this city, but it may become an embarrassing question how ultimately to dispose of them.

10. As regards the last seizure, Captain Rodovalho seems now disposed to ground it on the instructions issued to the Naval Station in 1847, originating in, and worded conformably to, the despatch of Viscount Palmerston to Sir Hamilton Seymour of 31st May of that year; and had the slaves taken at Equimina been at once dealt with by him summarily, in conformity to those instructions, he might probably have been borne out in that course, although there are two points where the parallel is not quite perfect: first, that the denunciation of the existence of these slaves did not proceed from British officers; and, secondly, that the establishment at Equimina cannot strictly perhaps be called a barracoon, consisting, as it does, of one or more substantial residences, and exhibiting some indication of agriculture and works of a licit character; but that it has been an extensive dépôt for slaves and the principal focus where Slave Traffic has been fostered and carried on to the south, there can be no doubt. Captain Rodovalho, however, does not appear to have been alive, in the first instance, to the latitude which these instructions may be thought to afford. His first intention, indeed, was to have brought the negroes here for trial, as appears by his letter of the 22nd November, inclosed in our before-mentioned despatch of the 1st December last, but in consequence of directions from the Acting Governor-General (who was, probably, ignorant of the above-mentioned instructions to the Commandant of the Naval Station issued so many years ago), the case was submitted to the judicial authorities on the spot, who proceeded to try it in conformity to the VIIIth Article of the Decree of 1844. Sentence has been passed accordingly; and though the cause is to be re-tried upon appeal, it would seem that to attempt to act in the present stage of the affair in contradiction to that sentence, would be an unwarrantable interference with the jurisdiction of the country.

It may even be said that to have brought the negroes here is already an infringement of it; yet it would be a lamentable sight to see such a number of young creatures re-consigned to slavery, more especially after having been now a second time taught to expect their freedom.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 64.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 25.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 20, 1855.

1. WITH reference to our despatch of the 16th December, 1854,* we have the honour to inform your Lordship that, in a recent interview which Her Majesty's Commissioner has had with the Acting Governor-General of this Province, his Excellency informed him that, since the conversation therein reported, he had given positive orders to the Governor of Benguella, not to allow any individual leaving that district in future to take with him a greater number of slaves than was permitted by the Vth Article of the Treaty. His Excellency added, however, that the restrictions therein contained were easily evaded, and quoted a case in point which had recently occurred here of a person who had applied for a passport for himself and 6 slaves to proceed to the south. The passport was refused, but he eventually effected his purpose by distributing his 6 slaves between himself and two other passengers, each figuring as the owner of two; a manœuvre which, from his manner of speaking of it, it should seem that his Excellency felt himself neither very well able, nor much concerned, to prevent.

* Class A, presented 1855, No. 86.

2. At all events, as the matter at present stands, it is quite clear that it will be dealt with practically according to the individual opinion and feelings of whoever may hold the reins of this Provincial Government for the time being.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 65.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 9.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 23, 1855.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Brazilian subject, Francisco Antonio Flores, took his departure for Lisbon yesterday.

2. Your Lordship will, however, be surprised to learn that he received by a vessel which left that capital early in December, and arrived here on the 14th instant, an intimation that the order for his expulsion from this province had been revoked, and that he was at liberty to continue his residence at Loanda if he thought proper.

3. A Government vessel which had sailed a few days earlier, but which, from her having to touch at different places on her passage, has not yet arrived, is said to be the bearer of a Portaria to this effect. A copy of this document, Flores, it is affirmed, held in his hands, but that he declined to make use of it at present, having made all his arrangements for leaving the province.

4. The fresh decision which the Portuguese Government has thus come to is supposed to be grounded on the Custom-house and other documents referred to in our despatch of the 5th July last,* with reference to which we may state that it is certainly true that, besides the English brigantine "*Newport*," with a valuable cargo on board, detained by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's sloop "*Philomel*," in the month of September, Flores has had consigned to him a vessel which arrived here from Cardiff about three months since, chartered by his agents in London, Messrs. Pinto, Perez, and Co., to receive a cargo of the lawful produce of this country on his account, after discharging a cargo of coals into Her Majesty's depôt at this place, and which he re-dispatched, *viâ* Ambriz, on the 27th of January; but it is no less certain that up to the last moment when such speculations promised success, that is to say, the early part of the past year, he continued shipping slaves to the north of Ambriz on more than one occasion. He now, however, forswears all further Slave Trade transactions, declares that he has set at liberty such slaves as remained in his barracoons, and that he has given the most positive orders to the person whom he leaves in charge of his concerns at Loanda on no account whatever to engage in any Slave Trade proceedings. Flores is supposed to have realised very considerable sums, particularly in his last shipments to the Havana, and he may, possibly, rest satisfied with what he has got rather than run the risk of any further venture. Whether, therefore, the intentions he now avows are to be ascribed to this feeling, strengthened by the greater difficulty which there is now said to be in introducing slaves into Cuba, the future only can prove. In the mean time it is to be observed that the individual to whom he has entrusted his business, Augusto Garrido, has hitherto been no less publicly known as a slave-trafficker than himself, as shown in Inclosure 2 to our despatch of the 27th September;† since which time Garrido has returned to this place from New York, calling himself an American citizen, and furnished with some document from the authorities of that State preliminary to his becoming so. In any case, we have little doubt that we shall

* Class A, presented 1855, No. 74.

† Ibid., No. 77.

see Flores return eventually from Lisbon, bearing with him some palpable proof of his having arranged matters there as satisfactorily as other notorious slave-traffickers have done before him.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 66.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, February 23, 1855.

1. OUR Report this year on the state of the Slave Trade in this part of the world will lie in a very narrow compass, and, were we to attempt to extend it, it could be little more than a recapitulation of what we have already had the honour of bringing before your Lordship in previous correspondence.

2. Our Annual Report for 1854 showed that in the beginning of that year, and at the close of the preceding, the Slave Trade had been again unusually active and successful, both to the north and south of this place; but we are happy to say that this unexpected increase, which it would not be difficult to trace to its true source, was but momentary, and has now entirely ceased, and we have not latterly heard of any slaver having made her appearance in these parts. Indeed, it is said that the treatment which the purveyors of the slaves to the south have met with at the hands of those who received and carried them off, has been such as greatly to dishearten the former, and to indispose them to hail any fresh arrival on the coast with their accustomed eagerness; in fact, that they have been tricked out of the payment they expected, and that for not one of the slave cargoes which were so carried off has a single dollar been received in return, so that unless a purchaser should appear on the coast with the money in hand to pay for whatever slaves he may bargain for, it is not likely that any fresh shipments will be made on mere speculation.

3. On the hand, it is given out that the Brazils are feeling the want of slave labour very sensibly, and that the price of a slave in that country has risen considerably; but neither of these facts, though published, probably, with the express view of keeping up the dormant spirit of illicit enterprise, to whatever extent they may prove true, would, we apprehend, have of themselves any material influence either in discouraging or animating the Slave Trade, the continuance or extinction of which will mainly depend on the measures of the Brazilian and Cuban authorities themselves. So long as those two markets are shut, there will be no slave-trading; but if, from whatever cause, either should reopen, the Traffic would be again as rife as ever on this coast: such, at least, is the prospect which for some years to come we must be prepared for, till licit commerce shall have had time to take deeper root, and altogether to supplant its opposite, as well by the introduction of new appliances, such as the extension of steam, and thereby increased intercourse, and by the breaking up of former interests, diverting them into other channels, and utterly eradicating every vestige of the old. The present state of the trade, therefore, may be better described as one of stagnation rather than of extinction, however complete that stagnation would seem to be at this moment.

4. The losses above referred to have produced great commercial distress, particularly at Benguella, where the want of funds is very great; but this distress, resulting, as is seen, from special causes, is not to be ascribed to the cessation of a Traffic the thriving of which is now almost universally admitted to have been no less prejudicial to the general interests of this province—to its commerce, its agriculture, and its industry—and consequently to the prosperity of the mother country also, than repugnant to every principle of humanity and civilization. Experi-

ence, on the contrary, founded on a comparative review of late years, shows that licit trade has been on the increase, that the exports have considerably augmented, and that though the imports may have been less latterly, and the revenue may thus have suffered therefrom, yet that this circumstance should be ascribed rather to the political state of Europe than to any want of commercial activity, nor does the undoubted fact of the diminution of the number of vessels frequenting this port during the past year contradict this statement, because those sailing hence for Lisbon have taken much fuller cargoes than usual.

5. Of the respective squadrons employed for the suppression of the Slave Trade less notice is required this year than heretofore from the very circumstance of the diminution of that trade, and which has rendered the reduction which they have all severally undergone a matter of less moment. The French squadron appears to have dwindled down to a very small number; at least, in these parts, the appearance of a French cruizer has been very rare; and, indeed, it is right to add that no instance of that flag having been engaged in Slave Trade for several years past has, we believe, occurred. The American Commodore has made but one visit to Loanda, but an occasional cruiser under his orders has been sent here; more, however, as it would seem, with a view to further the commercial interests of the United States than to check the Slave Trade, which will have been done in the mean time more effectually, perhaps, so far as regards the abuse of their flag, by recent prosecutions issuing in convictions, which have occurred in their Courts of Justice against individuals accused of having carried on that trade under American colours. The naval force under the orders of the Portuguese Commandant on this station has been, and yet is, very small; but Captain Rodovalho, by zeal and activity, endeavours to make the most of it. The British cruisers are as usual on the alert; but since the capture of the "*Milaudon*," by Her Majesty's brig "*Linnet*," in April last, no prizes have been made that we have heard of, except it be the detention of a British vessel off Ambriz in September by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's "*Philomel*," on suspicion of being engaged in Slave Trade, and which was sent to St. Helena for adjudication.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 67.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 21, 1855.

1. THE Government vessel alluded to in our despatch of the 23rd ultimo* has arrived, but no such Portaria as she was said to be the bearer of, revoking the order for the expulsion of Senhor Flores from this province, appears to have been received; and we are inclined to think that the intimation said to have been in the hands of that person before his departure, referred rather to a temporary extension of the term granted him to wind up his affairs than to an actual revocation of the original decree.

2. That he will, however, exert himself, not ineffectually, on his arrival at Lisbon is more than probable, and also that representations will not be wanting there for the purpose of showing the detriment which the withdrawal of his capital, &c., from this province will cause to its commercial interests; the truth of which can only be tested by the realization, or otherwise, of his present professions that he has for ever abandoned all Slave Trade transactions, in proof of which it is said that his house has at this moment a very large amount of goods on hand for licit commerce.

3. This is confirmed by Captain Rodovalho, who has been lately

* No. 65.

staying for some days at Ambriz; but Her Majesty's Arbitrator has been informed, and amongst other sources by two English gentlemen who recently arrived at Loanda from the north, that so far from there being any reason to suppose that the goods said to be now on hand at Senhor Flores' establishments (a fact the truth of which he is strongly inclined to doubt, from the circumstance of his having effected large sales previous to his departure) are destined for objects of licit commerce; that those at Ambriz and the Congo contain at this moment many slaves ready for embarkation, and that his agents at those place are no less actively employed in the Traffic than ever. With respect to Flores' avowed renunciation of the Traffic in Slaves, as well as the alleged injury which the commerce of this province may sustain by the withdrawal of his capital, Mr. Gabriel considers the statement as invented solely for the purpose of affording his friends and supporters a means of obtaining the revocation of the decree for his expulsion, and, although he does not deny that Flores has lately embarked some capital in lawful trade, he is, nevertheless, convinced that he has done so only with the same object in view. The declaration that he had liberated all his slaves is, to his certain knowledge, absolutely false.

4. This last statement was contained in our despatch of the 23rd ultimo,* not, however, given even as reported, much less an ascertained, fact, but merely as an assertion which had been made by Flores himself. When such professions are made, and they are brought to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Commissioner, he deems it is duty to report them; but we would not that your Lordship should ascribe more credit to them than is proverbially due to the promises of an avowed gambler, if, indeed, the familiar adage of "sour grapes" may not best explain them in the present instance.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 68.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, March 22, 1855.

1. WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th of December, 1854,† acquainting us that you had called the attention of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the fact that the exportation of slaves from the West Coast of Africa had been greatly increased in consequence of the reduced strength of the British squadron on that coast, and that their Lordships had stated in reply that the squadron has been reinforced, and that other ships will be sent out from time to time, as the exigencies of the service will permit.

2. We beg leave to return your Lordship our respectful acknowledgments for this gratifying information, which Her Majesty's Commissioner has not failed to make known to the respective authorities in command here.

3. A brig of war called the "Villa Flor" has, we are happy to say, recently arrived from Lisbon to supply the place of the "Corimba," which we last year informed your Lordship had been condemned as unseaworthy, and she will shortly proceed south with orders to keep a watchful eye over that part of the coast where it has been lately rumoured that the slave-traffickers have shown some indications of a renewed attempt to export slaves. Nothing positive has as yet, however, occurred to confirm this rumour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 69.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 21st of March last, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon,* from which you will perceive that Flores has never even applied for the revocation of the Portaria ordering his expulsion from Angola.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 70.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 16.)

My Lord,

Loanda, May 12, 1855.

1. WE have the honour to inform your Lordship that Major José Rodriguez Coelho do Amaral, who, as your Lordship is aware, has been the Acting Governor of this province for the last six months, was, by a Decree dated the 17th January of this year, and which has recently been received here, appointed Governor-General of the same, and its dependencies, for the term of three years.

2. And by another Decree bearing date the 8th February, Lieutenant Vicente Ferre Barrunchi, of the Royal navy, who had succeeded Major Amaral *ad interim* at Benguella, has been named Governor of that district for the like term.

We have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 71.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord,

Loanda, June 12, 1855.

1. SOME time ago reports were current here that a shipment of slaves had taken place somewhere to the north of the Congo; but nothing sufficiently certain was known respecting it to warrant our reporting the circumstance till the arrival here, last week, of Her Majesty's brig "Linnet," by whom we are sorry to say the fact is placed beyond all doubt; at least, Commander Need, who had visited Loango for the express purpose of ascertaining the truth of the reports in circulation, learnt, from a source on which he considers reliance may be placed, that towards the end of March last an American schooner carried off from a spot called Quicongo, in the neighbourhood of Black Point, 350 slaves destined for Cuba.

2. This venture should seem to have been the last effort of two Spaniards who came out a year or two ago to this coast in an American vessel called the "Monte Christo," and established themselves, ostensibly for purposes of lawful commerce, to the north of the Congo. They have now both disappeared from thence, the principal having returned to Cuba, and the other, his agent, by whom this last shipment was effected, having, it is said, come south. Their establishment is now in the hands of

a Portuguese who, Captain Need says, is doing a good deal of business in the way of licit trade.

3. With reference to this subject, and to your Lordship's despatch of the 11th December last,* we would take the liberty of again requesting your Lordship's attention to the very reduced state of the British squadron on the south coast, which for the last six months has consisted only of two vessels, neither of which has been seen south of Loanda' during that time.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 72.)

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 29.)

My Lord,

Loanda, August 5, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I have just received a letter from the Rev. Dr. Livingston, communicating to me his progress from the date of his leaving Cassangé and crossing the present boundary of this province to the 18th of May last. He left Cassangé on the 16th of February, and, after having met with much detention, owing to sickness amongst his men, forded the River Quango between the latitudes of $9^{\circ} 48'$ and $9^{\circ} 52'$ south, where it winds between the meridians of $18^{\circ} 25'$ and $18^{\circ} 30'$ of east longitude.

Dr. Livingston was desirous of visiting Matiamoo, the paramount Chief of the Sunda country, as well with a view of entering into amicable relations with him, as for the purpose of ascertaining whether the River Casai is navigable in his country, and forms with the Quango, the Congo or Zaire of Captain Tuckey. He therefore kept more to the eastward than he had done in his journey from the Zambesi to this place, and crossing the River Chekapa, in latitude $10^{\circ} 10'$ south, and longitude $19^{\circ} 42'$ east, and another river called the Maomba, in latitude $9^{\circ} 38'$ south, and longitude $20^{\circ} 13' 30''$ east, arrived at Cobango, a large trading station on the River Chihombo, situated in latitude $9^{\circ} 31'$ south, and longitude $20^{\circ} 31'$ east, from whence Matiamoo is east-north-east 100 miles.

His companions here expressed a most anxious wish to return home, a feeling in which, looking at them and their circumstances, Dr. Livingston says he could not but sympathize with them; although, still faithful and obedient, as they had always been, they were ready to proceed on to the eastward if he had insisted upon it. He, however, having obtained, at Cobango, the chief object he had in view in desiring to visit Matiamoo, viz., information as to the Casai being a navigable river in his country, and finding that his funds were so far exhausted that he had not, to use his own words, "the wherewithal to appear before that Potentate," resolved on proceeding southwards to Katema and thence direct to the Zambesi and Sekeletu's town.

Dr. Livingston having got good lunar observations at a spot two miles west of the River Quango, finds that that river is fifteen miles further to the east than he had placed it on the map which he drew of his journey to this place, he having, on that occasion, passed it in excessively cloudy weather. He finds also that he was misinformed respecting the course of the Chekapa, which, together with several important geographical points on the route, he has been enabled to establish more accurately from numerous observations taken during his present journey. His corrections will be forwarded to the Royal Geographical Society by an early opportunity.

In all the letters that I have received from Dr. Livingston during his progress through this province, he speaks in terms of gratitude of the

kindness and hospitality which he received at the hands of the several Portuguese authorities through whose jurisdiction he passed.

I am grieved to add that his health had suffered a good deal from his having been obliged, after leaving Cassangé, to sleep for several nights on a plain on which the water was flowing ankle deep. He had been compelled to form trenches around his berth, and having been detained twenty-five days in this situation, became much enfeebled by his sufferings during that time. He, nevertheless, wrote in cheerful spirits, sanguine of success in "doing his duty" under the guidance and protection of that kind Providence who has already carried him through so many perils and hardships. He assures me that, since he knew the value of Christianity, he has ever wished to spend his life in propagating its blessings among men, and adds that he has the same desire now undiminished. It is devoutly to be hoped that He who has helped and guided him hitherto, will be with him still.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 73.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, November 12, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information and guidance, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon,* respecting a permission which has been granted to Manoel José da Costa Pedreira to transport 100 libertos from Angola to the Island of St. Thomas.

I inclose also a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Ward in reply.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 74.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, November 13, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Lisbon,‡ transmitting a copy of a note from Viscount d'Athoguia, which announces the appointment of three gentlemen to act respectively as the Portuguese Commissioner, Arbitrator, and Secretary, in the Mixed Commission Court at Loanda.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 75.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 6, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Loanda, October 29, 1855.

1. YOUR Lordship will have collected from our despatches of the 16th December, 1854,§ and of the 20th March last,|| the views of the

* Class B, No. 233.

† Ibid., No. 237.

‡ Ibid., No. 234.

§ Class A, presented 1855, No. 86.

|| No. 64.

present Governor-General of this province with reference to the Vth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842.

2. Early in the month of August last we learnt that an individual had arrived at Loanda from the Island of St. Thomas with the avowed object of procuring as many slaves as possible for the purpose of employing them in agriculture on an estate belonging to a principal landed proprietor in that island; and, very shortly afterwards, that he returned thither on board an American vessel, in company with another individual who figured as a settler, taking with him 10 slaves.

3. This appears by the inclosed "Official Boletim." After bringing, therefore, the circumstance to the notice of the Governor-General, Her Majesty's Commissioner lost no time in addressing to his Excellency the letter of which the inclosed is a copy, to which his Excellency returned the answer a translation of which is also annexed.

Inclosure 1 in No. 75.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola.

Sir,

Loanda, September 4, 1855.

I HAVE already taken an opportunity of calling your Excellency's attention verbally to the subject of the "colono" whose sailing with 10 slaves in the American barque "Seamew" for St. Thomas is published in the "Official Boletim," No. 516; but the more I reflect upon this circumstance, and on the information which has reached me respecting it, the more I feel that it would be a dereliction of my duty if I failed to apply formally to your Excellency, as the supreme authority of this province, respectfully requesting you to afford me such particulars concerning this transaction as may enable me, while reporting it to Her Majesty's Government, as it is incumbent upon me to do, to satisfy them that it has involved no departure from the Vth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, concluded between the Crowns of Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves.

I am the more confirmed in the propriety of my making this application to your Excellency, because, in the note addressed by Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon to the Visconde d'Athoquia, in reply to that Minister's communication of the disapprobation of the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty of the proceedings of the late Provisional Government of Angola, in the case of the "*Trindade*," the British Minister declares that the remonstrances of Her Majesty's Government which they had expressly commanded him to make, "related in great measure to the reprehensible practice of allowing passengers proceeding to the islands to take with them, under the character of household servants, slaves in no way coming under that description."

This note, together with the despatch of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State approving the same, I had the honour of communicating to your Excellency on the receipt of the two Portarias issued by the Portuguese Government on the 27th December last. Now, if I am rightly informed, not only has the abuse thus pointed out by Her Majesty's Minister occurred in the present instance, namely, slaves have been allowed to embark as household servants in no way answering to that character, but even the person who figured as a "colono" in charge of them was by no means entitled to be considered as such.

If this should, indeed, prove to be the case, I am satisfied, from the well known sentiments of your Excellency on the subject of Slave Traffic, and from my conviction of the sincerity of your desire to put it down, and on account of which I was so recently instructed to express to your Excellency the satisfaction of my Government, that you will be the first to regret that your good faith and vigilance should have been eluded on this occasion, and that you will take the earliest and most efficacious means to counteract the ill effects of an irregularity the practice of which appeared to the High Contracting Parties of so dangerous a tendency that there is nothing against which they have been careful to provide stronger precautions in the compact to which they have bound themselves than this very irregularity.

Trusting that you will see in this application of mine not only the fulfilment of a duty, but also a tribute to the loyalty by which I believe you to be actuated in the righteous cause in which we are mutually engaged, and which our respective Governments have so much at heart, I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 75.

The Governor-General of the Province of Angola to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

(Translation.)

*General Government of the Province of Angola,
September 7, 1855.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the official letter which you addressed to me under date of the 4th instant, calling my attention to the case of the recent passage of a settler (colono), with 10 slaves, to the Island of St. Thomas, on board of the American barque "Seamew," which sailed hence on the 10th ultimo, as is seen by the port register published in the "Boletim" No. 516, of the same month.

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You consider, Sir, from the information given to you, that the said settler had no quality whatever to entitle him to be considered as such, and that the 10 slaves were embarked as servants, without, also, their belonging to that condition.

Reminding me of the contents of various notes which have lately passed between our two Governments respecting the faithful execution of the Vth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, which relates particularly to the licit transport of slaves in voyages by sea, and manifesting the justice which you do to my efforts for the total annihilation of the barbarous Slave Traffic, you declare your conviction that I shall be the first to regret that my vigilance and good faith should have been eluded on that occasion, as well as that I will take prompt and efficacious measures to avoid the repetition of such pernicious deceptions.

Thanking you cordially for the good opinion you entertain respecting me, and which I very highly appreciate, and recognizing, without the slightest hesitation, that the explanations that you ask of me are indispensable for the fulfilment of the duties of your office, I proceed to give them to you with my wonted frankness and loyalty, leaving you at liberty to make such use of them as you may think proper.

The individual who obtained my permission to go to St. Thomas's with ten slaves in the barque "Seamew," by name Manoel Antonio de Oliveira, alleged that he had engaged with the richest proprietor and agriculturist on that island, Manoel José da Costa Pedreira, to direct the culture of a large estate, sharing the profits with him; that he intended, in consequence, to remove to that island, and there fix his residence, taking with him 10 slaves that he owned, conformably to the power which the Decree of the 10th December, 1836, and the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, gave him.

I did what was my duty, viz., to ascertain the truth of such statement by the testimony of persons altogether above suspicion. I learnt that the above-mentioned contract was true; that, consequently, the intention of the petitioner to fix his residence in the Island of St. Thomas and to employ there his slaves in agriculture, had nothing deceptive about it.

As regards the character of settler, if by that term is to be understood, in its most generic acceptation, every inhabitant of a colony residing permanently therein, and exercising there some useful vocation, such character could not be denied to the petitioner, who was precisely in that situation with reference to Loanda.

With respect to his property in the slaves which he intended to carry with him, I had no reason for any doubt on that head, nor was it well possible for me, as you must know, Sir, to require convincing proof respecting it. The said slaves were shipped in that character, not, as you seem to suppose, as servants, unconfined on board the ship, clothed according to their condition, and with passports, conformably to the requirements of the 5th clause of the Vth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842; besides which, no others went in the same vessel, which was bound direct for the Island of St. Thomas.

In view of the above, I flatter myself that you will acknowledge that there is no sufficient cause for thinking that my vigilance was inefficacious, and my good faith eluded. If such had happened, I should deeply regret it, as you have justly supposed, and the more so as I should have had this dissatisfaction on the first occasion of my having given a permission of a similar nature, after having refused a great number of others which have been requested from me since I have held the government of this province.

I close this reply by the assurance that you will always find me most sincerely and fully disposed to co-operate with you in your very laudable exertions tending to the annihilation of the inhuman Traffic in Slaves; and this not only because it is a duty imposed upon me by the positive orders of my Government respecting this matter, but also from my own conviction.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE RODRIGUES COELHO DO AMARAL.

No. 76.

Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 6, 1856.)

My Lord,

Loanda, November 12, 1855.

1. THE Portuguese Decree providing for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves in this Colony, dated the 14th of December, 1854, will, doubtless, long ere this have been brought under the cognizance of your Lordship.

2. When it first reached this city through the medium of the public press, it occasioned more of curiosity and surprise than of individual alarm, and was looked upon generally rather as a measure of remote and contingent legislation than as one to be immediately and unconditionally enforced, and in which the whole community, from the richest proprietor to the most indigent individual in possession of a slave, whatever the age or value of such slave might be, was alike concerned.

3. When, therefore, the Decree was unexpectedly published, and immediate execution ordered in the "Official Boletims" of August and September last, it excited the most lively apprehensions, and the Municipal Chamber of Loanda at once took the lead by holding an extra session, in which a very strong remonstrance was moved, carried unanimously, and,

without loss of time, presented to the Governor-General by that body in person.

4. Of this document, as well as of the answer it received from his Excellency, we have the honour to transmit, herewith, translations.

5. In almost any other country such a representation might be considered as one of no light import. Here, as your Lordship will perceive, it has been met with a rebuff; the measure itself has been enforced without any remission, and though the remonstrance and proceedings attending it have been forwarded to the metropolis, to be laid both before the Throne and the Cortes, it will, probably, lead to nothing.

6. The immediate result has been the registration of about 15,000 slaves belonging to this city and its vicinity, and the payment into the public coffers of between seven and eight contos of reis.

7. The meeting was attended by about 150 citizens, of whom one only spoke, and the several topics embodied in the Address, and which he urged, in some parts, in very strong language, were unanimously adopted by all present; they declaring that, in all he said, he expressed only the sentiments of the entire community.

8. The most remarkable part of his speech referred to the extinction of the Traffic in Slaves, the cessation of which had caused, it was true, a great financial convulsion by occasioning the disappearance of specie, but it had not, he said, made them poorer; on the contrary, it had increased their positive and real wealth by the impulse it had given to industry. The prohibition of the Traffic was a just, humane, and, above all, a highly politic measure; what he complained of was, that the Government had taken no steps to "right," as he expressed it, "the commercial balance" by the introduction of colonists; and now they were about, at one sudden and unexpected blow, to despoil the inhabitants both of their actual property and the means of acquiring it for the future. By such proceedings, he concluded, it would really seem as if the Government were abandoning this unfortunate Colony to its fate, and labouring rather for its annihilation than its prosperity. These remarks were received with great applause, and the President himself, contrary to custom, proposed that all present should sign the Minute of the Session, which was done accordingly.

9. Your Lordship will see, in the answer of the Governor-General, that this course was highly censured, and exception taken to certain expressions used in the Address. The Chamber withdrew, it is said, two of them, viz., the words "absurd" and "inopportune," as applied to the enforcement of the Decree, but declined to cancel their Minute of Session, as required by his Excellency. Since this, the President has resigned on the score of ill health, and the whole proceedings are transmitted by this opportunity to Lisbon.

We have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 76.

Address.

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Loanda, September 7, 1855.

THE Municipal Chamber of this city, impressed with the deepest grief, presents itself, in the name of its citizens, to your Excellency, in order to seek the means of averting that calamitous crisis which threatens to overturn the social edifice of the province, but especially of this municipality, should the execution of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854, be persisted in. The Chamber submits to the judicious consideration of your Excellency the Minute of its extraordinary session of the 5th instant. From this your Excellency will perceive that nearly the whole of the citizens have repaired in a body to the Municipal Chamber, full of anxiety on account of the ruin which threatens them; but your Excellency will also observe a fact in itself very honourable, and which the Chamber is proud to notice, viz., the legal form and respectful manner in which its citizens have drawn up their reclamation—an instance of moderation which has perhaps no example under similar circumstances. The citizens of this municipality do not reject the beneficent views which have dictated the above-mentioned Decree; on the contrary, they recognize the necessity of regenerating the state of social existence which has hitherto obtained: they are convinced by actual and long experience that the prevalence of slavery is a most powerful element in retarding the progress of civilisation, as well as of the morality,

good habits, and the material prosperity of the country. What they feel is the premature and unexpected enforcement of the Decree, and therefore it is that the fears which they entertain and have expressed in their representation, are well founded. Experience, no doubt, will have shown your Excellency that the power of the slave-holders was already, even before the publication of the Decree, very insecure and precarious. There will not be wanting sufficient documents in the hands of your Excellency respecting the repeated and frequent escapes of the slaves, their masters being rarely able to recover them; and if the public prosperity is suffering daily from such failures in its means of action, even in the absence of any sufficient motive to give rise to them, how much more will this be felt when the greater part of the slaves consider themselves free from the dominion of their masters. The police reports will have informed your Excellency of those cases of disobedience and insolent behaviour which have occurred, and besides these there have been many others unknown to the authorities.

Your Excellency is well aware that the greater part of the capital of this province is employed in slaves: their preservation, therefore, as already stated, being so precarious, it would seem to be a great political outrage to pretend to weaken it by restrictions such as are contained in the Decree of the 14th December, there being no one governmental and economical measure to counterbalance it.

What does the Government think will become of this Colony after they shall have thus paralyzed its means of action? And how are the proprietors to free their capital by unavoidable necessity employed in slaves? Will the Government perchance bind itself to indemnify them? Would that it were so! Nothing would be more acceptable than to find themselves freed from the dire necessity of having it so ill employed, and withal so insecure.

But were it even possible so to release such a considerable amount of capital, how could they expect the social existence of this Colony to continue without the individuals requisite for the regular reproduction of the necessities of life. To depend for this on the free natives and on libertos, no one would think of who is at all acquainted with their natural disposition and unconquerable indolence. The repeated trials which have been made with reference to the service of bearers (*carregadores*) must have furnished the Government with sufficient grounds for forming its judgment respecting the value of the services of such individuals.

Before ordering, therefore, the Decree in question to be put into execution, the Government should have taken measures for drawing to this country a considerable body of European or Asiatic colonists, who might have furnished for its agriculture, commerce, and industry, a certain succession of labouring agents. In this way no one would regret to see even the complete emancipation of all the slaves.

Either of these hypotheses, however, are very far from being realized by the Government, while the destructive blow is imminent.

Nor will it escape the enlightened reflection of your Excellency, that there are in this province a great number of individuals whose whole means consists in the possession of a few slaves, who earn for them their daily livelihood, which even so barely suffices; and that placed in circumstances such as these are to be found also many females of this city, who will now be dispossessed of their property for want of the necessary sum to pay the register fees, which are really excessive, it being even now very difficult for persons in more prosperous circumstances to obtain any coin, from its scarcity in the province.

And what will be the case in the interior districts, where this want is total and irremediable? It is well known what great difficulties the small proprietors residing there undergo to meet the payment of the tax (*decimos*), which amounts to a less sum than the head-money now decreed; besides which they are allowed a long notice for its payment.

But in addition to all these weighty reasons, there is still one pointed out in the representation of the people, which renders the execution of the Decree most inconvenient and impolitic, viz., the possibility of an open revolt on the part of the slaves. It is not unknown to your Excellency, that at a very short distance from this city there are assembled, at three several spots, troops of fugitive slaves to the number of above 20,000. If the excitement which is now manifest among the slaves who are still under the dominion of their masters should lead to an open rising, it is quite certain that the former would join and aid them. Then would the European portion of this community become the victims of their fury and brutality, and we should have a scene of disasters like that of St. Domingo, Pará, and Bahia.

The military force of Europeans cannot, from the elements of which it is composed (as far as respects the soldiery), inspire any confidence in case such a conflict should arise; for, stimulated by the hope of robbery and of escape, they would doubtless side with the insurgents.

But even supposing this force to be deserving of confidence, it is numerically insufficient to make head against so large a body of natives—a circumstance which would endanger the lives and fortunes of our citizens.

The above considerations are all of such magnitude—the last, in particular, presenting so frightful a contingency—that the Chamber in its own name, and in that of the people, hesitates not to take upon itself, and before the Government of His Majesty, all the responsibility of suspending the execution of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854; a measure which it earnestly solicits of your Excellency till such time as His Majesty and the Cortes, to whom it is about to address petitions on this subject, shall have come to a determination respecting it.

The Chamber is well persuaded that your Excellency will not withhold your assent to this, both because you cannot but feel how reasonable and urgent such suspension has become, and because you will not be willing to incur so great a weight of responsibility before God, before your countrymen, and before all men.

Your Excellency will perceive by the inclosed certificate that the people are not averse to the registering of the slaves, but it is necessary that the period allowed for doing so should be extended, unaccompanied with the penalty of the forfeiture of the right of property; further, that the registry fee be reduced to 100 reis per head, as even then its amount will largely remunerate those employed in this service.

The Chamber, relying on the great intelligence of your Excellency, on the strict justice which marks your administration, and on your patriotic sentiments, hopes that this its petition may be granted, &c.

(Signed by the President and other Members of the Municipal Chamber).

Inclosure 2 in No. 76.

The Governor-General of the Province of Angola to the President of the Municipal Chamber of Commerce.

Most Illustrious Sir,

Palace of Government, September 9, 1855.

THE Governor-General has read with the greatest attention the representation presented to him yesterday by the Municipal Chamber of this city, accompanied by a certificate of the Minute of its extra session of the 5th instant, both documents treating of the execution of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854. This extra session took place, at the instance of many of the citizens, in order to represent the serious inconveniences which, as they think, must result to this province from the entire fulfilment of the above Decree. The evils apprehended may be said to be comprised under the following heads:—

1. That the slaves now existing may not well comprehend the provisions of that Decree, and may think it gives to them immediate liberty, and on that account that they may refuse all subjection to their masters, or at least evince their recognition of it very imperfectly by affording them small and indifferent service.

2. In anticipation of a formal revolt on the part of these slaves, owing to the excitement of their rude nature, that the public force is insufficient and not duly constituted for the purpose of bringing the slaves back to their duties.

3. That the measure of liberating the new slaves, in itself defective, is not accompanied by others providing either for their being trained so as to render them useful to whoever may hire their temporary services, or even to themselves when completely emancipated; and failing also to secure the means of colonizing the country with Europeans—no faith being felt in the value of the free labour either of the said libertos or in that of the natives.

4. The shortness of the term and the high amount of the registry fee: With regard to the first, because that term is said to be insufficient, especially in the interior, where the small proprietors, slow in perceiving at the first view the provisions of the Decree, will run the risk of losing their slaves for not having complied, within a term so limited, with its requirements. As regards the second, it is alleged that the public derive no advantage from fixing the tax at so high a rate, and that it is in fact beneficial only to the employes.

His Excellency thinks that, divested of the turgid phrases which abound in this representation, and which, far from augmenting its force, tend rather to diminish it, the arguments may be reduced to the above heads, and proceeds to dictate to me the following answers in order that I may transmit them to the Chamber.

First. The fear expressed that the slaves may refuse the lawful obedience which they owe to their masters appears to him to be exaggerated; neither do the facts proved since the publication here of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854, justify such apprehension, being themselves too insignificant, neither have their masters any ground to mistrust the care with which the authorities will not fail to maintain for them the full enjoyment of their just rights, if (which very probably will not happen) the necessity for it should arise.

Secondly. Considering the question of the amount and character of the public force of this province to be a delicate one, his Excellency thinks he ought not to say anything on the subject, except that, being himself the first to be responsible for the results of any disaster which this force ought to prevent, and being at least as much exposed to them as the signers of this representation, he does not feel the slightest doubt of being able to fulfil that important duty in any possible contingency, nor does it appear to him that there is any reason at present for apprehending such an one as is therein indicated.

Thirdly. His Excellency considers it only necessary to call the attention of the Chamber to the dispositions of Article 18 of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854, whence it will be seen that the necessity for making provision for the instruction of the libertos was not forgotten. The Chamber must suppose that, in the regulations which the Board, for the protection of the slaves, has to draw up, due attention will not fail to be given to this point. As regards the indisposition to labour manifested by the natives, so far is his Excellency from considering it justified by the facts which have occurred with respect to the commercial "bearers," since they began to receive the remuneration they were entitled to, that he thinks, on the contrary, these facts contradict such an assumption; since it is certain that a great number of bearers are arriving daily in this city without there having been any official interference on the part of the Chiefs of the Districts respecting the argument between them and the owners of the goods which they bring. His Excellency further reminds the Chamber that all argument founded on the repugnance manifested by the natives to work, so long as such work was exacted from them without a just return, is essentially unsound. In similar circumstances the labourers in any other country would do the same, or worse.

Fourthly. His Excellency cannot omit to say, with reference to the matter of the first part of this Article, that he considers the deficiency complained of may be traced rather to a want of will on the part of those called on to make the register than of time allowed for its completion. This opinion is grounded on the fact of the small number of persons who have come forward to inscribe their slaves during the eight days which have already run. If things continue to go on in this manner, it is much to be feared that the penalty of the law will have to be enforced; but, if so, it will be the fault of the masters. In the contrary case, his Excellency assures the Chamber that all the slaves will not fail to be registered within the thirty days, even if for this purpose it should become necessary to increase the number of persons employed on this service, according to the instructions issued to the several districts.

With regard to the registry fee, the Chamber is well aware that the half of the amount is allotted to the chest of the protecting Board, and it is not ignorant, at the same time, of the benignant and humane purpose of this Board. His Excellency cannot believe that the complaints of the Chamber refer to this part of the tax. But he does not consider them better founded as regards the other part. The work of registering a slave is not so trifling as is pretended. The responsibility of strict exactness is imposed by the law on him who makes it. The security which this gives to the owners of slaves, and to their lasting tenure in them, is an individual interest which, like all of a similar nature, is paid for in the public departments under the title of fees,

and, further, the increase of duty which the new law has imposed on the officials does not end with the registry. The provisions of the 3rd, 4th, and 45th Articles of the Decree of December 14, 1854, show this clearly.

His Excellency, in replying to the Chamber as he has thus done, thinks that it will recognize the impossibility of its petitions being acceded to. His Excellency cannot omit to convey to the Chamber the expression of his extreme dissatisfaction at the introduction of certain expressions in its representation, deficient alike in justice and due respect, as well with reference to the manner in which it characterises the measures decreed as to the care and solicitude of His Majesty's Government for the interest of the inhabitants of this Province. Still less can his Excellency approve of the Chamber allowing the Minute of its extra session of the 5th instant to be signed by the citizens there present. It was by no means necessary to resort to such an irregularity in order to bring to the knowledge of the Government the desires of those citizens.

In Article 98 of the Administrative Code it is laid down by whom the Minutes ought to be signed. The determination of the Chamber to ignore this provision falls under the prescription of Article 105 of the said Code.

The right of petition is undeniable, but the duty of attending to all the particularities laid down in the form prescribed is not less so.

The Municipal Chamber of this city—a body in whom his Excellency has always met with the greatest loyalty and most decided care in the conservation of all the principles of public order—cannot fail to recognize this truth; and of this his Excellency is so fully persuaded that he hopes not only that the Chamber will agree in the necessity of ordering the Minute in question to be cancelled, substituting another for it in which the provisions of the law shall be strictly observed, but also that it will consider it necessary to transmit to his Excellency some document disavowing whatever appearance of disrespect there may be in the former document, in order that his Excellency may be relieved from the extreme pain of bringing such papers to the knowledge of His Majesty's Government unaccompanied by such a corrective, which appears to him to be indispensable.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTO DO VALLE,
Secretary-General.

No. 77.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon:—(Received
February 6, 1856.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, November 13, 1855.

1. WE have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 9th of May,* approving the language made use of by Her Majesty's Commissioner in a conversation with the then Acting Governor-General of Angola on the subject of the transfer of slaves from Benguella to Loanda, not sanctioned by the Vth Article of the Treaty of 1842.

2. We avail ourselves of this opportunity respectfully to recall your Lordship's attention to our despatch of the 20th of March last; the practice of evading the letter of that Article by the distribution of a number of slaves between one or more passengers still continuing, and meeting with little or no opposition on the part of the authorities.

3. An instance of this kind has recently occurred, where a Portuguese subject returning from Benguella on board an American merchantman transferred two of a party of slaves he was bringing with him to the possession, *pro tempore*, of a young lad who was on board, and who entered this port announcing himself as the owner of them.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.
EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 78.

*Her Majesty's Commissioners to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 27, 1856.)*

(Extract.)

Loanda, December 13, 1855.

1. AT the beginning of last month we were officially informed by Commander Need, senior officer of this division, of the capture off Cabinda on the 19th of October, by Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," of a small cutter-rigged vessel, without flag or papers, bound from the Congo to St. Thomas with a cargo of 90 negroes.

2. Later information leaves little doubt that this cutter was no other than the "*Effort*," a small half-decked vessel, built, we believe, at the Cape of Good Hope, and for some time employed as a harbour craft at St. Helena, where she was purchased in April last by W. T. Julio, a native of that island, but now a naturalized American citizen, established at Loanda as agent of the commercial house of H. T. Ingalls, of New York, having previously been in the employ of Messrs. Brookhouse of Salem.

3. From St. Helena this vessel cleared out under the American flag in charge of an Englishman named John Smith, furnished with papers, said to have been declared valid for a period of only ten months, from the United States' commercial agent at that place.

4. Proceeding direct to Cabinda and Ambriz, she was at first employed, it would seem, by Julio in the coasting trade between the River Congo and Loanda; but on the 4th of July a Portuguese subject, acting as his clerk, presented himself at the Secretary-General's office as her owner, and, as such, applied for and obtained Portuguese coasting-trade papers, with which, after having been partially recoppered and made into a decked vessel, she sailed towards the end of that month for the Congo, where, being fallen in with and boarded as well by the boats of the United States' brig of war "Dolphin" as by those of Her Majesty's ships "Scourge" and "Linnet," she showed American colours, and thus escaped detection; the fact being that, at that very time, she had been sold to a Portuguese subject, in those parts, notoriously and exclusively engaged in the Slave Trade, formerly a partner of the well-known José Bernardino de Sá, of Rio de Janeiro, by name Guilherme José de Silva Corrêa.

5. The price at which the "*Effort*" is said to have been purchased by Julio—60*l.*—and that which he obtained for her after converting her into a decked vessel, viz., one conto two hundred mil reis, and, still more, the hands into which she passed, indicate pretty clearly the nature and the purpose of the transfer; but the circumstances attending the transaction from its very commencement, will, probably, appear to your Lordship still more deserving attention.

6. It divides itself into two distinct parts—the occurrences at St. Helena, and those which took place after the arrival of the vessel at Loanda.

To the former we presume not further to advert, considering it to be hardly within our sphere of duty to do more than respectfully, but very distinctly, to request your Lordship's attention to the facts stated in paragraphs Nos. 2 and 3 of this despatch; but, with reference to the latter, namely, the proceedings of the Portuguese authorities, we beg leave to state that Her Majesty's Commissioner, who had previously mentioned to the Governor-General the seizure made by the "Plumper" when he first heard of it, took occasion to revert to the subject so soon as he became aware of the above circumstances.

His Excellency replied by frankly acknowledging their accuracy, and by reading to him a letter he had written to Commodore Adams. He had, he said, in all good faith and confidence in Julio, granted Portuguese papers for his vessel, on the application of his Portuguese clerk, regarding it as a mere formality to enable him, representing a foreign house, to engage the more freely in the coasting trade.

He had been deceived; the term for which the licence was granted

had long since expired, and the vessel had not again made her appearance in these waters. He had, consequently, on the receipt of the Commodore's letter, sent for the individual in question, and required of him the return of the vessel to this port within thirty days, and, in default thereof, the payment of the amount of the bond he had entered into, viz., two contos of reis.

7. His Excellency, after enlarging on the contents of his letter to the Commodore, which, he said, he had not yet had an opportunity of forwarding, requested Her Majesty's Commissioner to furnish him with whatever further particulars he might possess to enable him the better to establish the identity of the "Plumper's" prize with the "*Effort*." Sir G. Jackson accordingly addressed to him the letter of which the inclosed is a copy; in reply, he received that he has the honour to subjoin, in translation, as well as its inclosure, to the Commodore, as it may, probably, in this way be brought to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government sooner than it otherwise might be.

8. The assurances therein contained, as well as those verbally given by his Excellency to Her Majesty's Commissioner, are, under the circumstances of the case, all that could be looked for; but we must be careful not to mislead your Lordship by holding out the expectation that any practical consequences will result from whatever steps may be resorted to; for not only is the individual in question, Francisco Barboza Rodrigues (one of the insolvent slave-merchants of the year 1851), incapable of paying the forfeiture of a bond for which he alone was security: but the act of exacting such bond—a measure introduced by the late Governor-General, Pedro Alexandrino de Cunha, in his zeal for the suppression of Slave Traffic—has been declared by the *Relação* at Lisbon, on appeal from the Loanda tribunals, to be illegal. We shall, therefore, be the more solicitous to see what course will be pursued by his Excellency when, at the end of thirty days, Barboza shall acknowledge himself unable to produce the vessel as required.

9. With regard to the second security exacted in conformity to, and in virtue, as alleged, of the Decree of the 10th December, 1836, and which was given by Julio himself, although he, doubtless, is fully able to meet it, yet your Lordship will perceive, by the wording of the letter to the Commodore, that there is little or no probability of the penalty being enforced; the tribunals invariably requiring more definite proofs than the nature of such cases can, generally speaking, afford.

Inclosure 1 in No. 78.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola.

Sir,

Loanda, December 4, 1855.

REFERRING to the conversation I had the honour of having with your Excellency yesterday, I hasten to forward, according to your request, the substance of a statement received from the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," respecting the vessel recently captured by him off the Congo.

There can be little doubt, I apprehend, of the identity of this vessel with the cutter "*Effort*," which, as your Excellency informed me, obtained Portuguese papers for the coasting trade in July last; but in addition to the details mentioned in this statement, and to the other facts already known to your Excellency, I may add that the vessel seized by the "Plumper" was copper-bottomed—a particularity which, it is notorious, belongs to no craft built in the Congo.

The verbal assurances which your Excellency was good enough to give me, and the frank manner in which you conversed on this subject, convince me that no pains will be spared by you in the investigation of it, but, in reporting the circumstances attending a transaction so justly deserving, in every point of view, of the most serious attention of Her Majesty's Government, involving, as it does, other highly important considerations beyond that of a violation of the Treaty of 1842, it would be very satisfactory to me to be able to refer to the authority of the Governor-General himself for the accuracy of the statement which it will be my duty to lay before the Queen's Government.

Whatever information, therefore, your Excellency may think proper to afford me in this matter will be duly appreciated both by them and myself.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. JACKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 78.

The Governor-General of the Province of Angola to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

Sir,

Palace of Government, Loanda, December 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, transmitting to me an extract of a communication received by you from the Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Plumper," respecting the capture of a small vessel which the said Commander met with, off Cabinda, with slaves on board.

You request me, Sir, to give you in writing some assurance of the painful feeling of dissatisfaction which the intelligence of this fresh attempt to renew the nefarious Traffic in Slaves has excited in me, in accordance with what I verbally stated to you, as also of my intentions to employ every means in my power for the discovery and punishment of the authors of such an attempt. I think I cannot better comply with your request than by furnishing you with an exact copy of the reply which I returned to Commodore John Adams respecting this same matter. I therein express my regret that the vessel so captured had not been brought at once to this port. You, Sir, will, doubtless, agree with me that such would have been the readiest way of ascertaining whether the said vessel was or was not the "*Effort*," as is with great reason suspected.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE RODRIGUES COELHO DO AMARAL,
Governor-General.

Inclosure 3 in No. 78.

The Governor-General of the Province of Angola to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

Palace of Government, Loanda, November 29, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the official letter of the 2nd instant, in which you communicate to me the capture, on the 19th October last, of a small vessel, cutter-rigged, between Cabinda and the Congo, by the steamer "Plumper," in consequence of her having 90 slaves on board. You further state your suspicions that the said cutter was no other than the "*Effort*," which had been seen some days previously in the river by the boats of several of the cruisers, hoisting at that time the flag of the United States; also the information subsequently obtained by you that the aforesaid vessel belonged to Mr. Julio, an American citizen residing in this city, who had sent for her from St. Helena, and sold her at Loanda, whence she sailed with Portuguese papers.

You express to me, Sir, your hope that I will institute the most rigorous investigation respecting these facts, in order that on the captured vessel being proved to be really the "*Effort*," the legal consequences may be enforced against the individuals found guilty of engaging in such illicit Traffic.

I have to state to you, Sir, in reply, that it is true that an individual in this city, a Portuguese, registered as his own property, on the 4th day of July last, in the Secretary-General's Office, a cutter by the name of the "*Effort*," of 9 $\frac{7}{10}$ tons burden, for which he at once applied and received the requisite papers for the coasting trade. She sailed, in fact, for the northern ports on the 20th of the same month; the requisite bonds for her return to Loanda, and for whatever infraction of the laws for the suppression of the Slave Trade might be committed, being duly given. She has not since returned to this port. From information deserving of all credit it has further become known to me that the aforesaid cutter was the same which Mr. Julio had sent for from St. Helena. In view of this, I think with you, Sir, that there are sufficient grounds for supposing that the cutter taken by the "Plumper" was the "*Effort*," which improperly hoisted the United States' flag when seen in the Congo by the boats of the cruisers. It would have been desirable that the prize should have been brought here, as its identity with the "*Effort*" might thus have been easily ascertained, as well by her measurement as by the individuals composing her crew; the master being an American named John Smith. You may, however, be assured, Sir, that I will cause very rigorous proceedings to be taken in order that such a crime may not remain unpunished. I at once required the return of the "*Effort*" within the space of thirty days. Failure to comply with this requirement will cause the immediate condemnation of the owner in a fine of two contos of reis, the amount of the bond entered into with reference to such infraction alone.

As regards the other bond, having in view the not engaging in the Traffic, which was given by the above-mentioned Julio, it will not be possible to exact that except by means of the laws of the country, and the criminal penalties will have to be enforced by the same instrumentality. I shall, however, in any case, cause the requisite legal proceedings to be instituted.

From you, Sir, I request, with a view to the punctual execution of the Treaty for the abolition of the nefarious Traffic of Slaves which binds our respective countries, that you will furnish me with all the proofs that you may be possessed of, and which the tribunals will infallibly call for.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE RODRIGUES COELHO DO AMARAL,
Governor-General.

No. 79.

*Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
February 27, 1856.)*

(Extract.)

Loanda, December 24, 1855.

1. YOUR Lordship will, no doubt, notice that in the despatch of Her Majesty's Commissioners dated the 13th instant, giving an account of the prize recently taken by Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," no mention is made of what became either of the vessel or of the slaves found on board.

2. In the documents with which Commander Haswell furnished me on his coming to Loanda, and of which I have the honour to inclose exact copies, as well as of the letter which covered them, he refers, as your Lordship will see, to the Acts of Parliament, and not to the Treaty of 1842.

Inclosure in No. 79.

Commander Haswell to Her Majesty's Commissioner:

Sir,

"Plumper," St. Paul's de Loanda, November 30, 1855.

IN accordance with your verbal request, I have the honour herewith to furnish you with copies of documents containing all the particulars in my power to afford you respecting the vessel recently captured by me off the River Congo with slaves on board.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. HASWELL.

I, the Undersigned, William Henry Haswell, holding the rank of Commander in Her Britannic Majesty's navy, and commanding Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," duly authorised by the Acts of Parliament 2nd & 3rd Vict., cap. 73, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, do hereby declare that on the 19th day of October, 1855, being in latitude 5° 23' south, and longitude 11° 50' east of Greenwich, I seized a sloop (name unknown), whereof Manoel Antonio da Silva is master, for having violated the said Acts, and further declare that the said vessel had on board at the time of seizure a crew of four persons, and one passenger, and 90 slaves, and that the following are the names of the crew and passengers, and the number of male and female slaves, viz. :—

Names of the Crew.	Names of the Passengers.	Number and Sex of Slaves.
Manoel Antonio da Silva.	Daniel Gosmão.	90 Males.
Francisco Fernandes.		No Females.
Joaquim da Costa.		
Joaquim Fernandes.		

And I further declare that the condition of the slaves was as follows :—
Good and healthy.

Having caused a survey to be held, I do hereby declare that I found the vessel and her cargo in the following state :—

Too small to convey with safety the number of persons on board, with the requisite quantity of provisions, to any distant port, as per report of survey,

Seventeen puncheons filled with fresh water.

Forty bags of farinha.

Six bags of calavances.

A quantity of jerked beef and dried fish.

Slave coppers.

A quantity of firewood.

No colours or papers.

Having taken the crew, slaves, and provisions out of her, I set fire to her hull effectually destroying her.

Given under my hand at sea, this 19th day of October, 1855.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. HASWELL,
Commander.

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, have met on board the cutter, name unknown, detained by the "Plumper," this day, and have taken a strict and careful survey on her state and capabilities of performing a sea voyage, and find as follows : viz., that she is too small to convey with safety the number of persons on board, with the requisite quantity of provisions, to any distant port, and we also find some planks in her bottom decayed, and her rigging and sails defective and unseaworthy.

We do declare that we have taken this survey with such care and equity that we are ready and willing, if required, to make oath to the impartiality and correctness of our proceedings herein, as also to her measurement, which we find to be as follows :—

					Feet.
Length	..	..	..	..	42
Breadth	..	..	..	..	14
Depth of hold	..	..	..	..	7

Given under our hands, on board Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," at sea, the 19th of October, 1155.

(Signed) C. J. DIDHAM, *Senior Lieutenant.*
R. O. WHITE, *Master.*
WM. JACKSON, *Carpenter's Mate.*

No. 80.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, February 16, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th of October last, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Governor-General of Angola, relative to a recent case of shipment from thence of some slaves for the Island of St. Thomas, on board the American barque "Seamew," in contravention of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty with Portugal of 1842 ; and I have to acquaint you that I approve your proceedings as therein reported.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 81.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, March 1, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th of December last, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Governor-General of Angola, relative to the capture, off Cabinda, on the 19th of October last, by Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," of a small cutter with 90 slaves on board ; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your having urged the Governor-General to institute a rigorous investigation into the facts of this case, in order to find out whether the vessel captured by the "Plumper" was really the cutter "*Effort*," formerly belonging to St. Helena, so that if this fact shall be proved, the legal penalties may be enforced against the persons found guilty of engaging in such illicit Traffic.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 82.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, March 1, 1856.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon,* inclosing a copy of a note addressed to him on the 15th of February last,

* Class B, No 250.

by the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that the Portuguese Commissioner in the Mixed Commission of which you are members is about to return to Portugal on leave of absence, and that orders have been transmitted to Loanda by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for the appointment of a Commissioner *ad interim*, in conformity with the stipulations of section 3 of Article X of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 83.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, March 8, 1856.

I TRANSMITTED to Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, copies of your despatch of the 12th of November, 1855, and of the correspondence therein inclosed, which had passed between the Municipal Chamber of Loanda and the Governor-General of Angola, respecting the execution in that province of the Portuguese Decree of the 14th December, 1854, for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves. And I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Howard in reply,* stating that the Portuguese Government had entirely approved the proceedings of the Governor-General of Angola in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 84.

Her Majesty's Arbitrator to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 25, 1856.)

My Lord,

Loanda, December 14, 1855.

FROM the interest which your Lordship has manifested in the progress and success of the important objects to which the Rev. Dr. Livingston's energies have been directed in this part of the world, you will, I am sure, be gratified to learn that I have just received a letter from that enterprising gentleman, dated the 12th of August last, announcing his safe arrival at Naliele in the Barotsé country, distant from this place about 800 miles, and according to the map which he was good enough to give me, showing his route from the Zambesi to Loanda, lying in latitude about 14° 30' south, and longitude 24° east.

This letter, the only one which Dr. Livingston wrote from Naliele, was entrusted to the care of some native traders whom he met at that place, and by them delivered at Pongo Andongo, a Portuguese Settlement in the interior of this province, from whence it was immediately forwarded to me by the Portuguese authorities. It conveys the pleasing intelligence that, after having surmounted all the perils and hardships which presented themselves in his progress through the hostile tribes of the Cheeboque and Balonda, and overcome the opposition of a native Chief in crossing the River Casai, he was, to use his own words, "at home, received with enthusiasm at all the different towns and villages through which he passed, and wanted for nothing the people had to give."

He had been detained ten days at Naliele waiting the construction of canoes with which to descend the Zambesi, but was to start the day after the date of his letter to me, and, having the stream of the river in his favour, he expected to arrive at the Chobé in fifteen or twenty days.

* Class B, No. 252.

Notwithstanding all the sufferings which he had undergone in the earlier part of his journey, Dr. Livingston, I am rejoiced to say, informs me that on the date of his letter, he was, through the merciful Providence of God, in as good health as he ever enjoyed in his life; adding, "You will be pleased to learn that my men are all in high spirits and quite prepared for another trip; although, as we have had to sell almost everything for food, they have but little to show after their long absence from home."

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND GABRIEL.

No. 85.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I have received a despatch from Mr. Howard, Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon,* dated the 14th instant, stating that Senhor Maciel Monteiro, the Brazilian Minister at that Court, had read to him a despatch from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, announcing the clandestine departure from Rio de Janeiro, on board the patacho "Maria," for Loanda, by way of Mossamedes and Benguella, of Francisco José da Rosa, who is suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and whose present voyage is believed to be connected therewith.

I have to add that it appears by Mr. Howard's despatch that the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs has, at the request of Senhor Monteiro, undertaken to instruct the Portuguese authorities on the West Coast of Africa to watch the proceedings of Francisco José da Rosa; and I have to instruct you to use all necessary vigilance with regard to the apprehended intrigues of this suspected slave-dealer.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Class B, No. 259.

LOANDA. (*Board of Superintendence.*)

No. 86.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord,

Loanda, January 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, herewith, for your Lordship's information, in translation, the report for the last quarter, which Senhor Guilherme Cypriano Demony, before resigning his office of Curator for Liberated Negroes, presented to the Board of Superintendence; in which, however, there is nothing calling for your Lordship's more particular attention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure in No. 86.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

St. Paul de Loanda, December 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes that myself and my assistant having frequently visited the libertos placed at the establishment of Public Works during the quarter ending this day, we found—

1. That they were receiving proper treatment.
2. That they were employed in the following manner :—
 In the trade of stone-mason—Vicente, Lourenço Miluange, Germano Dalla.
 In the trade of tinman—Feliz Calombe.
 In the trade of carpenter—Agostinho Caculo, Jacintho Ganga, Marcos Ganga.
 In the trade of black and locksmith—Elizio.
 In the trade of cooper—Pedro de Loanda.
 In manual labour—Mattheus, Alvaro Bunge.
 In the trade of paviour—Sebastião de Congo.

3. That the liberto Feliz Calombe was still in the Military Hospital.

(Signed) G. C. DEMONY,
Curator.

No. 87.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Loanda, April 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, for your Lordship's information, in translation, the report for the last quarter, which the Curator of Liberated Negroes has just presented to the Board of Superintendence.

This report differs in little or nothing from the preceding one, the last which was drawn up by the original Curator, Senhor G. C. Demony; but I shall, probably, have shortly to inform your Lordship of the com-

plete emancipation of certain of these libertos whose term of apprenticeship, as I have before had the honour of reminding your Lordship, is nearly expired.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure in No. 87.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

St. Paul de Loanda, March 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes placed at the Public Works that I have visited them several times during the quarter ending this day, as well as one who is placed at the Arsenal, and that I found—

1. That they were receiving proper treatment.
2. That they were employed in the following manner :—
In the trade of stone-masonry—Vicente, Lourenço Miluange, Germano Dalla.
In the trade of tinsmith—Feliz Calombe.
In the trade of carpenter—Agostinho Caculo, Jacintho Ganga, Marcos Ganga.
In the trade of blacksmith—Elizio.
In the trade of cooper—Pedro de Loanda.
In manual labour—Matheus, Alvaro Bunge.
In the trade of paviour—Sebastião de Congo.

3. That the liberto Pedro de Loanda is under treatment in the hospital for a disorder contracted by him.

(Signed) CONSTANTO. ANTO. VARRES FERRO,
Curator of Liberated Negroes.

No. 88.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 11, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th December last,* reporting the resignation, by Senhor G. C. Demony, of the office of Curator of Liberated Africans, and that the Board had appointed Senhor C. A. V. Ferro as his successor in that post; and I have in reply to inform you of my approval of Senhor Ferro's appointment.

I have at the same time to instruct you to express to Senhor Demony the sense which Her Majesty's Government entertain of his services whilst holding the office of Curator, which have met with their entire approbation.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 89.

The Earl of Clarendon to Her Majesty's Commissioner.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 23, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th of April, 1854,† I transmit to you, herewith, for your information and guidance, copies of a correspondence which has passed between myself and Count Lavradio, His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister at this Court,‡ respecting the constitution of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Africans at Loanda, during any period when the Governor-General of Angola may be absent from his post.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Class A, presented 1855, No. 101. † Ibid., No. 96. ‡ Class B, Nos. 219 and 221.

No. 90.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received September 24.*)

My Lord,

Loanda, July 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, for your Lordship's information, in translation, the report for the last quarter, which the Curator of Liberated Negroes has just presented to the Board of Superintendence.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure in No. 90.

Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.

(Translation.)

St. Paul de Loanda, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes placed at the Public Works, that I have visited them several times during the quarter ending this day, as well as one who is placed at the Arsenal, and that I found—

1. That they were receiving proper treatment.

2. That they were employed in the following manner.

In the trade of stone-masonry—Vicente, Lourenço Miluange, Germano Dalla.

In the trade of tinsmith—Feliz Calombe.

In the trade of carpenter—Agostinho Caculo, Jacintho Ganga, Marcos Ganga.

In the trade of blacksmith—Elizio.

In the trade of cooper—Pedro de Loanda.

In manual labour—Matheus, Alvaro Bunge, Sebastião de Congo.

3. That each one of these libertos declared to me that he had no representation to make, and that the food was abundant.

(Signed)

CONSTANTO. ANTO. VARRES FERRO,

Curator of Liberated Negroes.

No. 91.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received October 29.*)

My Lord,

Loanda, August 4, 1855.

1. IN my despatch of the 2nd of April I had the honour to inform your Lordship that the term of apprenticeship of certain of the libertos was about to expire. On the 11th of April, accordingly, the Board of Superintendence met, on the representation of the Curator that four of the libertos under its charge, viz.,

Agostinho Caculo,
Matheus,
Alvaro Bunge, and
Sebastião de Congo,

had completed their term, and were entitled to their full freedom.

2. Having called the above libertos before it, and ascertained that such was the fact, the Board gave orders for the respective instruments of emancipation to be prepared for its signature. Some delay, however, occurred in completing the necessary formalities, owing to the departure of the Governor-General for Ambriz, and his subsequent indisposition, and it was not till the 30th ultimo that a further meeting could take place.

3. I have the honour to forward, herewith, for your Lordship's information, a translated copy of the Minute of Session of the Board on that day, when the four libertos in question received their respective instruments of full and complete freedom, according to the form already used and approved by Her Majesty's Government, as intimated to me in the Earl of Malmesbury's despatch of the 29th October, 1852.

4. The four above-mentioned negroes have since left this city on their

return to their native country, and there now remain only 8 liberated Africans under the charge of the Board; the ninth liberto wanting to complete the original number of 20, being still missing, and with little or no probability of his being heard of any more after the lapse of so long an interval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure in No. 91.

Minute of Session of the Board of Superintendence of the 30th of July, 1855.

(Translation.)

ON the 30th day of July, 1855, the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes met in order to deliver to the four undermentioned libertos—

Agostinho Caculo,
Matheus,
Alvaro Bunge, and
Sebastião de Congo,

the instruments which confer upon them the enjoyment of all rights and privileges of free persons prescribed in Article XXVI of Annex C to the Treaty for the Suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, concluded between the two Crowns of Portugal and Great Britain, to which libertos full liberty was granted by the resolution of the Board at its sitting on the 11th April last, in virtue of the stipulations of the first part of Article VII of the aforesaid Annex C; when the above-named libertos being present, as well as those others who are now placed at the establishment of Public Works, and at the Arsenal, but who still remain under the care of the Board, the instruments of their full and complete liberty were delivered to the four libertos above-mentioned, in the presence of them all.

After this act, his Excellency the Governor-General, in the name of the Board, proceeded to exhort the other libertos, pointing out to them the full liberty which their comrades had obtained in consequence of the expiration of the time during which the Government was bound to maintain them, but that those who were learning trades should apply to them diligently, because it was competent for the Board to grant them the same full liberty when they should prove, even before the time designated, that they are able to work at their respective trades so as to gain their own livelihood.

No. 92.

Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 29.)

My Lord,

Loanda, August 16, 1855.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 11th May, signifying to me your approval of the appointment of Senhor Ferro to the office of Curator of Liberated Africans; and I have not failed to express to Senhor Demony, according to your Lordship's instructions on this occasion, the sense Her Majesty's Government entertain of his services while holding that office, and their entire approbation of them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

No. 93.

*Her Majesty's Commissioner to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
January 21, 1856.)*

My Lord,

Loanda, October 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, for your Lordship's information, in translation, the report for the last quarter, which the Curator of Liberated Negroes has this day presented to the Board of Superintendence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE JACKSON.

Inclosure in No. 93.

*Report of the Curator of Liberated Africans.**St. Paul de Loanda, September 30, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to acquaint the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes placed at the Public Works, that I have visited them several times during the quarter ending this day, as well as one who is placed at the Arsenal, and that I found—

1. That they were receiving proper treatment.

2. That they were employed in the following manner :—

In the trade of stone-masonry—Vicente, Germano Dalla, Lourenço Miluange.

In the trade of tinsmith—Feliz Calombe.

In the trade of carpenter—Jacintho Ganga, Marcos Ganga.

In the trade of blacksmith—Elizio.

In the trade of cooper—Pedro de Loanda.

3. With regard to the libertos Agostinho Caculo, apprenticed as carpenter; Mattheus, Alvaro Bunge, and Sebastião de Congo, who were employed in manual labour; the enjoyment of their full liberty was conceded to them by the Board at its session of the 11th of April, of which the respective title was delivered to them at the sitting of the said Board on the 30th July of the present year.

(Signed)

CONSTANTO. ANTO. VARRES FERRO,

Curator of Liberated Negroes.

PROCEEDINGS
OF
VICE-ADMIRALTY COURTS.

ST. HELENA.

No. 94.

Her Majesty's Judge to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 21, 1856.)

My Lord,

St. Helena, November 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship an abstract of the particulars of the case of a small vessel with 90 slaves on board, detained by Captain Haswell, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Plumper," off the West Coast of Africa, on the 19th ultimo, and adjudicated in the Vice-Admiralty Court of this Colony on the 13th instant.

The vessel being unfit to proceed to any port for adjudication, was destroyed by Captain Haswell, and the slaves were brought to St. Helena in the "Plumper."

They arrived on the 5th instant, and were condemned on the 13th.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. WILDE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 94.

Abstract of the case of a Vessel, name unknown.

SLOOP, name and nation unknown.

Master, Manuel Antonio da Silva.

Without papers or colours.

Crew, 5 persons (including master), were landed at Loango, on the West Coast of Africa.

Detained on the 19th October, 1855, in latitude 5° 23' south, and longitude 11° 50' east, by William Henry Haswell, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Plumper."

Had on board 90 male slaves.

Was surveyed by order of Captain Haswell, and being found unfit to be sent to any port for adjudication, was set on fire, and totally destroyed.

The slaves were removed to the "Plumper," and brought to St. Helena for adjudication, together with the compass of the sloop.

Arrived the 5th November, 1855.

Adjudicated the 13th November, 1855.

Vessel pronounced to have been liable to forfeiture and condemnation at the time of seizure.

The compass and slaves condemned to Her Majesty.

Measurement: Length, 42 feet; breadth, 14 feet; depth of hold, 7 feet.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, Registrar.

Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

Judgment in the case of a Vessel, name unknown.

In the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena.

AT a Court holden at James Town, in the Island of St. Helena, on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty-five, before the Worshipful William Wilde, Esq., Judge and Commissary of the Vice-Admiralty Court of St. Helena, lawfully constituted and appointed ;

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen against a certain sloop or vessel, name and nation unknown, whereof Manuel Antonio da Silva was master, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and also against ninety male slaves, seized as liable to forfeiture by William Henry Haswell, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Plumper."

In pain of parties cited not appearing, Knipe returned monition duly executed, and referred to the affidavits of William Henry Haswell, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Plumper," and Edward Shaw, Esquire, Second Lieutenant of and belonging to Her Majesty's said steam-sloop, heretofore exhibited and remaining in the Registry of this Court.

The Judge, at his petition, having heard the said affidavits read, on his motion as Counsel on behalf of Her Majesty, by interlocutory decree pronounced the said sloop or vessel, name unknown (not being justly entitled to claim the protection of the flag of any state or nation), to have been, at the time of the seizure thereof, equipped for and engaged in the Slave Trade, and employed in the illegal transport of negroes or others for the purpose of consigning them to slavery, contrary to the provisions of the Act of the third of Victoria, cap. 73, and as such or otherwise subject and liable to forfeiture, and condemned the compass of and belonging to the said sloop or vessel, and brought to St. Helena, as forfeited to Our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, accordingly. And further pronounced the ninety male slaves found on board of the said sloop or vessel at the time of the said seizure to have been, by virtue of the statute or statutes in such case made and provided, or otherwise, subject and liable to forfeiture, and condemned the said ninety slaves, surviving at the time of adjudication, to the sole use of Our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, accordingly.

(Signed) JNO. N. FIRMIN, *Registrar.*

REPORTS FROM NAVAL OFFICERS.

WEST COAST OF AFRICA STATION.

No. 95.

Commander Leckie to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, May 16, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's ship under my command, from the date of my last letter, April 26.

In compliance with your order of April 19th, received at Sierra Leone from Mr. Mallard, April 26th, I completed water and provisions for three months, and having placed myself in communication with his Excellency the Acting Governor, it was agreed that there was no necessity for my visiting the Sherbro.

I sailed for the River Nunez, May 1st; anchored off Gonsalez Island on the 4th; the next day I proceeded up the river forty miles to the English factory called Bapass, a Mr. Bicase owner. At each town I found a Frenchman located, dealing in ground-nuts. I boarded all vessels in the river, as per report sent in; and, from all sources of information, I am of opinion that there has been no export slaving in this river for a very long time.

I sailed from the Nunez May 8th, and anchored off the Pongas; finding nothing in Cape Verga, May 9th, I went up this river. All vessels that have entered this river to ship stores, have landed their cargoes, which were received by the native Chiefs, and then the latter have given information to Sierra Leone; and, upon good authority, there has not been one for years that has not been captured empty, and now there is not a sign of export slaving; the slave-dealers being ruined by the above system.

May 11th, I sailed from Pongas for the Sherbro river; anchored off Yaltucka river; fifteen miles above the Plantain Islands, sent my pinnace to Jenkins, and information was gained, on fair authority, that no export slaving had been carried on for a very long time. The natives' traffic to the Bullam shore still continues, but in all the rivers I have visited north of Sierra Leone, this private Traffic in Slaves for the cultivation of the ground-nuts is constantly carried on.

I had expected that vessels would try to ship outside the Turtle Islands, but all say it has not been attempted; the Scabar is the old shipping place.

I am of opinion that no export trade in slaves is going on, nor has been for a very long time, and that it would require a long time to revive it on anything like its old system.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. LECKIE.

No. 96.

Commander Leckie to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

"Ferret," July 12, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that a brig, name unknown, deserted, except by one man, without papers, colours, or anything to prove her nationality, equipped in every way for the Slave Trade, but empty, without any slaves on board, was detained by the boats of Her Majesty's ship under my command near Bangalong, twenty miles up the River Pongas, on the 19th June last. I brought her to Sierra Leone and entered her in the Vice-Admiralty Court here for adjudication. She was condemned in that Court on the 7th July, as "lawful prize, &c." Her sale is to take place to-morrow the 13th July. She measures, by the last Act, 222 tons. I send a prize list.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. LECKIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 96.

Lieutenant Robinson to Commander Leckie.

Sir,

Prize Brig, off the Rio Pongas, June 26, 1855.

IN obedience to your orders, on the 19th ultimo, I proceeded (by the Mud Bar entrance) into the River Pongas, and after having thoroughly examined that branch of the river, and having received information from King Katty Coulou, of a vessel being in the direction of Bangalong, I proceeded there, and about 8 P.M. boarded a brig without colours or papers, and with plank, beams, boilers, leaguers, &c., on board, and evidently intended for the Slave Trade; I therefore took possession of her, and brought her down the river without loss of time, but not having been able to obtain a pilot, I have only this day succeeded in getting her out (by the Sand Bar). The brig was deserted, except by one man, whom I believe to be the steward. I am happy to inform you that all the men under my charge have behaved well; and have, &c.

(Signed) C. C. ROBINSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

RETURN of all Vessels boarded, searched, or detained, by Her Majesty's sloop "Ferret," Charles Leckie, Commander, between 17th June and 12th July, 1855.

When boarded.	Where.	Name of the			How rigged.	Under what Colours.	Where		To whom Consigned.	No. of days out.	No. of			Nature of Cargo.	Also, if a Slave Vessel.					Intelligence.
		Vessel.	Master.	Owner.			From.	Bound.			Belonging.	Men.	Women.		Boys.	Girls.	Where Shipped.	Where sent for Trial.	Name of Proctor.		Name of Agent in London.
1855																				
June 19 ...	Rio Pongas	Unknown	None	Unknown	Brig	None	Unknown.		Unknown	..	1	..	..	Plants, Leaguers, &c.	...	Sierra Leone	...	Stillwell & Co. ...	Note. This vessel detained, being engaged in the Slave Trade.	

(Signed) CHAS. LECKIE, *Commander.*

No. 97.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received November 8.)

(Extract.)

“Scourge,” Loanda, August 18, 1855.

I BEG you will acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Chiefs of Cabinda have refused to receive the presents sent out by Her Majesty’s Government, as will appear by the accompanying letter from Commander Need, of the “Linnet,” to whom I entrusted their delivery. Commander Need acquainted the Chiefs at the time that the non-acceptance on their part of these presents would in no way affect the terms of their Treaty with England, and I have myself informed them that Her Majesty’s Government still requires the faithful fulfilment of that Treaty, and that I shall not fail to punish any infraction committed by them or their people.

Inclosure 1 in No. 97.

Commander Need to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

“Linnet,” off Cabinda, January 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the King of Cabinda has declined to receive the presents sent him under circumstances which I have the honour to detail, and await your further instructions.

On arriving at Cabinda, I wrote to the King informing him that I had presents on board, and wished to arrange about giving them.

I was told, after some delay, that the King could not receive them, for if he did the Chiefs would dethrone him.

This answer, given through Francisco Franque, was so little like the answer I anticipated and so much what a Chief would give, that it seemed doubtful if the letter had been delivered, and in consequence I hired bearers, and the best interpreter to be procured, and sent Lieutenant Probyn to Mongoya.

At an interview the King informed him that he could not receive the presents without a written declaration from the captain that they were “for nothing,” although he was told that no new condition would be imposed on him through their acceptance.

I immediately wrote to say, he would get them “for nothing ;” that he had signed a Treaty and the Queen of England had sent him presents ; but received in answer that he could not accept them.

I then wrote (copy of letter inclosed) to say that although he declined the presents, it would make no difference regarding his Treaty with the English, all the Articles of which must be strictly observed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY NEED.

Inclosure 2 in No. 97.

Commander Need to the King of Cabinda.

“Linnet,” off Cabinda, January 29, 1855.

COMMANDER NEED, of the southern division of the African squadron, informs the King of Cabinda that although he declines to receive the presents, it will not make any difference whatever regarding his Treaty with the English, all the Articles of which must be strictly observed.

(Signed) HENRY NEED.

No. 98.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received December 18.)

Sir,

*“Scourge,” off Shark’s Point, River Congo,
September 21, 1855.*

I HAVE much satisfaction in inclosing, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a Treaty which has been concluded by Commander Henry Need, of the “Linnet,” on the part of the British Government, with the Queen and Chiefs of Ambrizette, for the abolition of the Slave Trade within their dominions.

I beg you will acquaint their Lordships that I consider this to be a very important object gained, as Ambrizette has hitherto been a very extensive slaving depôt, and I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the able manner in which Commander Need has conducted the deliberations with those Chiefs which have brought about so desirable an end.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure in No. 98.

Engagement with the Chiefs of Ambrizette.

Engagement between Her Majesty the Queen of England and the Chiefs of Ambrizette for the Abolition of the Traffic in Slaves. Signed at Ambrizette, the 17th September, 1855.

HENRY NEED, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Linnet," on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the Chiefs of Ambrizette and of the neighbourhood, on the part of themselves and of their country, have agreed upon the following Articles and conditions:—

ARTICLE I.

The export of slaves to foreign countries is for ever abolished in the territories of the Chiefs of Ambrizette, and the Chiefs of Ambrizette engage to make and to proclaim a law prohibiting any of their subjects, or any person within their jurisdiction, from selling or assisting in the sale of any slave for transportation to a foreign country; and the Chiefs of Ambrizette promise to inflict a severe punishment on any person who shall break this law.

ARTICLE II.

No European, or other person whatsoever, shall be permitted to reside within the territory of the Chiefs of Ambrizette for the purpose of carrying on in any way the Traffic in Slaves; and no houses, or stores, or buildings of any kind whatever, shall be erected for the purpose of Slave Trade within the territory of the Chiefs of Ambrizette, and if any such houses, stores, or buildings shall at any future time be erected, and the Chiefs of Ambrizette shall fail or be unable to destroy them, they may be destroyed by any British officers employed for suppression of the Slave Trade.

ARTICLE III.

If at any time it shall appear that Slave Trade has been carried on through or from the territory of the Chiefs of Ambrizette, the Slave Trade may be put down by Great Britain by force upon that territory, and British officers may seize the boats of Ambrizette found anywhere carrying on the Slave Trade; and the Chiefs of Ambrizette will be subject to a severe act of displeasure on the part of the Queen of England.

ARTICLE IV.

The subjects of the Queen of England may always trade freely with the people of Ambrizette in every article they may wish to buy and sell in all the places and ports and rivers within the territories of the Chiefs of Ambrizette, and throughout the whole of their dominions; and the Chiefs of Ambrizette pledge themselves to show no favour, and give no privilege, to the ships and traders of other countries, which they do not show to those of England.

ARTICLE V.

Power is hereby expressly reserved to the Government of France to become a party to this Treaty, if it should think fit, agreeably to the provisions of the Vth Article of the Convention between Her Majesty and the King of the French, for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, signed at London on the 29th of May, 1845.

The term "Chiefs" throughout this Treaty shall be taken and understood to comprehend Queen and Chiefs.

In faith of which we have hereunto set our hands and seals at Ambrizette this seventeenth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

(Signed) CANGALA, ^{her} ~~mark.~~ *Queen of Ambrizette.*

ZINGA, ^{his} ~~mark.~~ *Chief of Ambrizette.*

GOODYANCAMA, ^{his} ~~mark.~~ *Chief of Ambrizette.*

MAVOONGA, ^{his} ~~mark.~~ *Chief of Ambrizette.*

VECAR, ^{his} ~~mark.~~ *Chief of Ambrizette.*

ANTONIO, ^{his} ~~mark.~~ *Chief of Ambrizette.*

HENRY NEED, *Commander of H.M.S. "Linnet."*

NAT. MOURILYAN, *Lieutenant, H.M.S. "Linnet."*

CHARLES W. PIKE, *Acting Paymaster, H.M.S. "Linnet."*

Witnesses :

(Signed)

ALEXANDER MACKAY, *Agent for English Factory.*

ROBERT CUNNINGHAM, *Agent for American Factory.*

T. F. D. RICKABY, *Agent for American Factory.*

H. C. WOGAN, *Mate, H.M.S. "Linnet."*

CHAS. L. BROCKMAN, *Clerk, H.M.S. "Linnet."*

No. 99.

Captain Haswell to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received December 26.)

Sir,

"Plumper," at Sea, October 19, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that this day, being off Cabinda, I captured a small cutter-rigged vessel, no name, flag, or papers, with a crew of five persons, having 90 slaves on board, from the Congo, bound to St. Thomas. Finding her very much crowded, and totally unfit for a sea voyage, I ordered a survey on her, and from the report—having taken the crew, slaves, and provisions, on board—I set fire to the hull, and fired several shot for practice through her hull and bottom, effectually destroying her.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. H. HASWELL.

No. 100.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received January 21, 1856.)

(Extract.)

"Scourge," off Shark's Point, River Congo,
September 24, 1855.

I CONSIDER it my duty to bring to the knowledge of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the fact that what little Traffic in Slaves still continues to exist on this coast, is chiefly carried on in American bottoms. Vessels leave the United States with legitimate cargoes for the coast of Africa, and, on their arrival, having disposed of their cargoes, are sold to slave-dealers.

The "*Millaudon*," captured by the "*Linnet*" in April 1854, was originally an American vessel, as also were the "*Manuella*," captured by the "*Ferret*" in May 1854, the "*Mercedeta*" taken by the "*Crane*" in August 1854, and the brig captured by the "*Ferret*" in June last.

No. 101.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Wodehouse.

My Lord,

Admiralty, January 22, 1856.

WITH reference to your letter of the 5th instant, and to former correspondence, relative to the removal of the prize-crew from the "*Fernando Po*," a Spanish slave-vessel captured by Her Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you herewith, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, copies of a letter from Commodore Adams with its inclosed correspondence between Commander Leckie of Her Majesty's ship "*Ferret*," and the Judges of the British and Spanish Mixed Court at Sierra Leone on the subject, together with a copy of a letter which has been addressed by their Lordships' directions to Commodore Adams in reply thereto.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. OSBORNE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Scourge," Loanda, November 12, 1855.

IN inclosing, for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the accompanying correspondence which has taken place between Commander Leckie, of the "*Ferret*," and the Judges of the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice at Sierra Leone, on the subject of the removal of the prize-crew from the "*Fernando Po*," (a Spanish vessel captured by the "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*" in August last,) while the foreign crew of fourteen were allowed to remain on board, I request you will inform their Lordships that I perfectly coincide with the opinion expressed by Commander Leckie, and that I consider such a practice, if allowed to be generally adopted, will be a great hindrance to the condemnation of suspected vessels, and will seriously interfere with the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

Commander Leckie to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, October 16, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copies of a correspondence with the Judges of the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice here, into which I was led by their superseding the prize officer of the detained vessel "*Fernando Po*" from the command of his men, and from their having ordered the prize-crew out of the vessel, and the Spanish crew of fourteen to remain on board.

I have inquired of all who have the greatest experience on the subject in the Colony, and find that this is an unprecedented case; that the foreign crews have never thus been allowed to remain on board before; and are of opinion that if such a course is generally adopted, many cases will occur of vessels detained on suspicion escaping from the harbour, provided no man of war is present. The usual guard of blacks placed by the Marshal of the Court as a guard would be little hindrance to Spanish slave crews effecting an escape.

These foreign crews know exactly where any article is stowed on board, and will have very little to hinder them, whilst the vessel is being cleared for survey, from throwing overboard articles which would lead to condemnation.

I consider the above attaches not only to the case of the "*Fernando Po*" now before the Court, but generally, and to every case that may come before the Mixed Commission Court; the escape of suspected vessels is facilitated, the destruction of evidence is facilitated, and the condemnation in many cases will be avoided.

I consider it my duty, as the senior officer of the Sierra Leone Division, to report this case to you, Sir; as, if this system is continued, it will greatly undermine the efficacy of the present means used for the suppression of the Slave Trade in all cases of capture under foreign colours.

I have the honour to call to your notice the intemperate, even insulting, language to myself in the third letter from the Judges of the Mixed Commission Court; and to request that the whole correspondence as I have inclosed it to you may be sent for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, together with this report to yourself, as I have every reason to believe the Mixed Commissioners have forwarded it to the Home Government.

Your own orders and letters relative to the newly appointed Governor of *Fernando Po*, who, by the evidence deduced before the Court in the case of the "*Fernando Po*," is certainly connected with

that vessel, and the letter from Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent at Monrovia, of which I sent you a copy, prove the connection of the "*Fernando Po*" with the "*Mariana*," a schooner under Spanish colours, the master of which has also been known to have inquired if slaves could be obtained at various points of the coast. This same person is now here to give evidence, and is connected both with the "*Fernando Po*," and the Spanish Governor of Fernando Po, Don Domingo Mustich.

I consider it my duty also to report that such papers have been filed in the Mixed Commission Court in the case of the "*Fernando Po*" as, I think, will prove to the Home Government that any vessel under Spanish colours will have little chance of being condemned in the Court at Sierra Leone. I refer to the paper containing the reasons of the Spanish Commissioner for not admitting the "*Fernando Po*" into Court at all.

Hoping my conduct in this affair will meet with your approval, and my request that the whole correspondence may be forwarded may be granted, I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES LECKIE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 101.

Commander Leckie to the British and Spanish Judges, September 16, 1855.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 5.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 101.

The British and Spanish Judges to Commander Leckie, September 18, 1855.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 5.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 101.

Commander Leckie to Mr. Dyett.

Sir,

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, September 19, 1855.

THE Judges of the British and Spanish Mixed Court of Justice have written me that they have issued orders to the Marshal of the Court that the prize-crew be removed, the Spanish crew remaining on board.

I beg to state, as senior officer present, that I think such an order being carried out detrimental in many ways to the cause of the captors, in the especial case before the Court; also, if such a precedent be established, that it will cause many delays in adjudication (detaining thereby prize crew and officers) and many facilities for destroying and doing away with the evidence for condemnation which might turn up on the vessel being surveyed.

In explanation, without wishing to interfere in the least, I beg to suggest that I consider the captors are not to be expected to trust their prize to the chance of being lost by being taken out of the harbour at night by her Spanish crew; moreover, that, when being cleared for the survey, I can see nothing to prevent the Spanish crew at night, knowing as they do exactly where every article is stowed on board, quietly making away with such articles, such as slave-irons, handcuffs, coppers, &c., &c., or any other articles that would, if found, condemn their vessel. I simply ask the question, why is such facility for evading justice to be allowed to people against whom there is already the previous search, and other strong evidence, such as want of papers, and circumstantial evidence that they are engaged in the nefarious traffic of the Slave Trade.

The prize-crew will not be removed until I hear from you, Sir, as the proctor acting for the captors, that you consider they can be, without detriment to the individual cause, and the cause of the navy at large on this station engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade. I have the honour to inclose a letter from Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent at Liberia, thinking it will bear upon the credibility of a Spaniard, who, I hear, has arrived here to add his testimony to the character of the "*Fernando Po*" and her master; also a Liberia paper. I think probably this Spaniard above is master of the schooner mentioned in the letter. You are at liberty to take a copy of the letter, which I shall be happy to attest; the original I require.

I beg to add that information has been sent by July mail to the Commander-in-chief, that two Spanish vessels, from the same Spanish house, were on their way to the Bight, for the purpose of procuring slave cargoes; the natural chain of reasoning is that the "*Fernando Po*" and the "*Mariana*" (not yet captured) are the two vessels, and the captain of the latter has arrived here to feel his own way, and give evidence for his friend.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES LECKIE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 101.

The British and Spanish Judges to Commander Leckie, September 21, 1855.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 5.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 101.

Commander Leckie to the British and Spanish Judges, September 22, 1855.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 5.]

Inclosure 8 in No. 101.

The British and Spanish Judges to Commander Leckie, September 22, 1855.

[See Inclosure 6 in No. 5.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 101.

Commander Leckie to the British and Spanish Judges, September 24, 1855.

[See Inclosure 7 in No. 5.]

Inclosure 10 in No. 101.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

Admiralty, January 22, 1856.

HAVING laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 12th November, last, with its inclosed correspondence between Commander Leckie, of Her Majesty's ship "Ferret," and the Judges of the British and Spanish Mixed Court at Sierra Leone, relative to the removal of the prize-crew from the "*Fernando Po*," I am commanded by their Lordships to acquaint you that they are of opinion that although Commander Leckie was justified in objecting to the order first made by the Court, as tending to separate the officer of the prize-crew from his men, he was mistaken in resisting the order of the 18th September, and that, on receiving such order, he should at once have withdrawn the officer and prize-crew.

I am to observe, when a vessel is seized on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and is consigned to the custody of the Marshal of the Court of Mixed Commission, that officer is responsible for the safe custody of the vessel to the Court, and the Government of the captor, as well as to that of the captured vessel.

The observations of Commander Leckie, and which you adopt, as to the danger of allowing the crews of captured vessels to remain on board pending condemnation, are not without weight; but my Lords are of opinion that, as the attention of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has been directed to the subject, it is for his Lordship to decide on the propriety of such a course being adopted in future.

I am further directed to acquaint you that my Lords approve entirely of the tone of Commander Leckie's correspondence, as being, under trying circumstances, both temperate and respectful to the Court of Mixed Commission, while it evinces a due zeal for the interests of Her Majesty's service.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. OSBORNE.

No. 102.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received January 22, 1856.)

Sir,

"Scourge," Loanda, November 12, 1855.

I BEG to inclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a letter* which I have received from Commander Haswell, of the "Plumper" reporting his having captured, on the 19th of October, off Cabinda, a small cutter-rigged vessel with 90 slaves on board.

I have been compelled to disapprove of Commander Haswell having destroyed this vessel previously to her being adjudicated, and of having taken the slaves to St. Helena, for the reasons set forth in my reply to that officer (copy of which I also inclose); the fact of his having burnt the vessel is peculiarly inconvenient, as there is the very strongest reason

to believe that she was a vessel purchased at St. Helena, and afterwards sold at Loanda by a resident there, and when she procured Portuguese papers previously to her leaving the last time.

I have addressed his Excellency the Governor-General of Angola on the subject, but have not as yet received his reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 102.

Commodore Adams to Commander Huswell.

(Extract.)

"Scourge," off Point Padron, November 12, 1855.

I HAVE received your letter of the 19th ultimo, in which you acquaint me of your having on that day captured, off Cabinda, a small cutter-rigged vessel (without name, flag, or papers), having on board a crew of five persons, with 90 slaves from the Congo, bound to St. Thomas's, and that in consequence of her being found unseaworthy, you had destroyed her, and taken the slaves to St. Helena.

I have, in reply, to call your attention to the following points, in order that you may be better guided, should you be called upon to act in a similar case in future:—

1. Your letter to me has not been accompanied by the Return in form No. 1, required by Article 26, page 11, chapter 1, of the printed General Orders of this station.

2. Your report is deficient as to the information required by Article 19, paragraph 4, page 10, chapter 1, of the orders above referred to—viz., as to whether the master had, in that or any other vessel, shipped slaves, and if so, when, and at what place; together with any information you could obtain. On this point you do not even mention the name of the master, or state whether she had one.

3. In Article 13, chapter 1, pages 8 and 9, of the Order above referred to, it is expressly laid down that all launches with slaves on board, captured in the neighbourhood of Portuguese possessions on the West Coast of Africa, are to be taken to Loanda, and a report thereof immediately made to the Governor-General of Angola, in order that, if acknowledged to be Portuguese property, they may be proceeded against without delay, before the Court of Mixed Commission established at that place.

4. You have disregarded entirely the provisions of Standing Order No. 5, issued by me on the 18th September, 1854, in pursuance of instructions from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, which directs that all vessels captured with slaves are to be conveyed, if possible, either to Sierra Leone, Loanda, or the Havana, "but not to St. Helena, unless captured in those latitudes from which St. Helena would be the easiest place to reach." In compliance with these directions, it was your duty to have taken both vessel and slaves to Loanda, as that was the nearest and most convenient spot.

5. You have infringed the latter portion of my Standing Order No. 18, of July 7, 1855, which calls attention to the necessity of sending vessels for adjudication previously to disposing of them. Your prize should, without doubt, have been sent to Loanda for this purpose, instead of being destroyed; and your having so destroyed her has occasioned great inconvenience to the service, and positive injury to the furtherance of the extinction of the Slave Trade, as the cutter you captured is strongly suspected of being a vessel lately purchased by some parties at Loanda, from an American of the name of Julio; and the circumstance of her destruction entirely precludes the possibility of establishing her identity.

Inclosure 2 in No. 102.

Commodore Adams to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola.

Sir,

"Scourge," off Point Padron, November 12, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to address your Excellency on the subject of a small cutter-rigged vessel captured with 90 slaves on board by Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Plumper" on the 19th ultimo, between Cabinda and the River Congo.

That river was searched by the boats of this ship as well as by those of Her Majesty's sloop "Linnet," and the United States' brigantine of war "Dolphin," only a few days previously to that on which the prize was taken, and there was then no other vessel there answering to her description except the "*Effort*," a small coaster under American colours.

I have since learned that the "*Effort*" was purchased at St. Helena (not many months ago) by M. Julio, a resident in Loanda, and disposed of by him a few weeks since, by which transaction he profited to the amount of 100*l.*; and M. Julio affirms that Portuguese papers had been obtained for her at Loanda previously to her leaving that port the last time.

I have deemed it my duty to bring these facts before your Excellency with a hope that you will institute a strict inquiry respecting the matter, in order that, should the vessel captured prove to be the "*Effort*," the persons who became securities for her being engaged in legal commerce may be called upon for the forfeiture of their bond, and further dealt with as justice may require.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

No. 103.

*Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received
January 21, 1856.)*

Sir,

"Scourge," Loanda, November 12, 1855.

I REQUEST you will lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the accompanying letters, with their several inclosures, which I have received from Commander Skene, of the "*Philomel*," detailing his proceedings in the River Bonny, consequent upon the death of King Dapho.

I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the conciliatory and judicious conduct of Commander Skene, by which the trade of the river has been reestablished on its former footing, and British property to the amount of 800,000*l.*, which had been jeopardized, rendered more secure than ever.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN ADAMS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 103.

Commander Skene to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

"Philomel," at sea, off Fernando Po, September 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that I sailed from Lagos on the 24th ultimo for one of the islands to procure water.

I anchored at Fernando Po on the 28th ultimo.

On the following day, the 29th ultimo, two supercargoes, Messrs. Hemingway and Witt, belonging to English merchant-vessels up the River Bonny, arrived at Clarence, having been deputed by the Court established there to convey to the British Consul for the Bight of Biafra, the intelligence of a serious disturbance having taken place in the Bonny, consequent on the death of the King (Dapho); that a great many cruel and wanton murders had been perpetrated by the natives; that the English Court-house had been totally destroyed, and English lives and English property endangered.

The Consul, immediately on receipt of this intelligence, sent me an urgent requisition (a copy of which I inclose), soliciting me to receive him on board the "*Philomel*," and convey him to the River Bonny, where it was hoped that his presence, and that of an English vessel of war, would have sufficient effect over the ringleaders of the disturbance as to induce them to restore matters to the friendly footing they were on, prior to the death of the King.

I at once acceded to the Consul's request, received him, his secretary, and two domestics, on board the "*Philomel*," and sailed for the River Bonny on the 2nd of September (yesterday).

Anticipating, however, from the very disturbed state in which the river was represented to be, that the presence of one vessel of war alone would not have sufficient influence over the natives as to induce them to listen to reason, I left a despatch at Fernando Po, to go to Lagos by the mail-packet "*Retriever*," ordering the "*Hecate*" and "*Minx*" steam-vessels to join me in the Bonny with all dispatch; conceiving that the mere presence of so imposing a force would have sufficient moral influence over the native Chiefs and tribes, without having recourse to force, as to induce them to open up the trade of the river and place matters on their previous footing.

My future proceedings in the Bonny shall be duly reported to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN M. SKENE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 103.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Commander Skene.

Sir,

Fernando Po, August 29, 1855.

I BEG to inform you that Messrs. Hemingway and Witt have been deputed by the British supercargoes trading in the River Bonny to visit me, for the purpose of representing the nature of the serious disturbances that have recently taken place in that river, on the death of King Dapho, which occurred on the 13th instant, when a great many people were wantonly murdered by the natives, and British lives, property, and ships, much endangered, and to request my immediate presence there in one of Her Majesty's vessels.

I fully intended to visit that river some time ago, but none of Her Majesty's ships adapted for that service being disengaged, I have not yet had an opportunity of doing so; and as the supercargoes now most earnestly request my interference there to restore tranquillity and peace among the natives, put a stop to the murders that have taken place, and reestablish trade, which is now entirely closed,

to the serious loss of British merchants who have vessels in that river, I most earnestly request that you will render me your very valuable assistance by receiving myself and secretary on board Her Majesty's ship "Philomel" under your command, and proceed to the River Bonny, when I hope that your presence will immediately restore quietness in that town, and that the trade will be resumed at once.

Trusting you will see the urgency there is for immediate assistance to the supercargoes, I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNSSLAGER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 103.

Commander Skene to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

"Philomel," Lagos, September 24, 1855.

IN continuation of my letter of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report my proceedings in the River Bonny.

September 5.—I entered that town, but in consequence of having received a letter from the English supercargoes on board the merchant-ships, stating that the natives of Bonny Town had removed every article of furniture from their houses into the interior, and had sworn that should any vessel of war come up, off their town, they would immediately fire it, and fly into the bush; and as it was my wish, if possible, to allay any angry feelings they might still possess against the English, I anchored off Breaker Island, about four miles below the town.

September 6.—The whole of the supercargoes came on board the "Philomel" to explain to the Consul and myself the correct state of affairs, and the true causes which had led to the recent disturbances. The two inclosed letters, dated September the 5th and 6th, form the correspondence that took place between the Consul and the supercargoes on this head.

September 7.—The Consul having expressed a wish to go up to the town, attended by one of the officers of the "Philomel," I at once placed a boat at his command, and ordered the Senior Lieutenant, Mr. Henry T. Boger, to accompany him. On arriving amongst the shipping, the Consul went on board of one, while Lieutenant Boger landed under a flag of truce, attended by two of the English agents, and met several of the principal Chiefs, and read to them the letter addressed to them by the Consul and myself, of which the inclosed marked No. 6 is a copy. On the same afternoon by a preconcerted signal, arranged between the Consul and myself, I weighed anchor in the "Philomel," and ran up off the town, where I came to amongst the shipping, to protect them, if required, or to treat with the Chiefs, as the case might be.

September 8.—The Chiefs of the Bonny having acceded to our request to be permitted to go on shore, and hold a friendly conference, I landed at 11 A.M., accompanied by the Consul, the Senior Lieutenant, and other officers of the "Philomel," together with all the supercargoes, under flags of truce, and held a grand palaver in the market-place, the result of which was much more satisfactory than we had anticipated.

Copies of this, as well as of all the other palavers that were held, I herewith inclose; as also copies of all the correspondence that took place during the negotiations between the Chiefs, the supercargoes, the Consul, and myself.

It affords me much pleasure to be able to report, that on the 11th of September, after the fourth conference between the Chiefs and ourselves, we succeeded in bringing them round to sense and reason, and obtained their sanction to the reopening of the trade.

We effected this important object without exciting the least angry or irritable feeling among them, or having occasion to employ any force or intimidation, or to fire a single shot, but simply by kindness tempered with firmness, perfect calmness, and great command of temper, on the part of all engaged on our side; and by our trusting ourselves fearlessly and confidently into the midst of them in their country, without the slightest shadow of suspicion of treachery, were the simple means we adopted to restore peace and confidence, and to reopen the trade—measures which were attended with complete success.

In consequence of the late King Dapho having left no heir to succeed to his Government, and as it was deemed most necessary, both by the Consul and myself, that some person or persons should be established in authority at the head of the affairs of the country, for the protection of British interests, and the due fulfilment of the existing Treaties, Slave Trade and Commercial, we on the 11th instant drew up a document establishing a Regency, consisting of four of the principal Chiefs of the Bonny, viz. :—

Anne Pepple,
Ada Allison,

Captain Hart,
Manilla Pepple;

and these Chiefs having accepted their commission, a copy of which is inclosed, and having agreed to act in that capacity, I requested them to bring their respective flags down to the beach, on the following day, the 12th, and hoist them on flagstaffs abreast of the ship, which being done, the Regency was ratified and confirmed, to the satisfaction of all parties, by a royal salute of twenty-one guns from the "Philomel."

September 13.—I was much gratified with the fruits of our labours by observing, shortly after daylight, the whole of the merchant-ships in the river surrounded by canoes full of palm-oil, that everything denoted bustle and activity, and that the palm-oil trade, which the English merchants themselves confessed that they dreaded was closed for ever in the Bonny, was perfectly re-established on (I am of opinion) a firmer basis than ever, within six days after the arrival of the "Philomel" in that river.

I herewith beg to inclose a copy of a letter of thanks addressed to me by the whole of the supercargoes in the Bonny, which they state they deemed it their duty to write in acknowledgment (they state) of the services I had rendered them and their employers at Liverpool.

I also beg to forward the copy of a letter I have received from the Acting British Consul on the same subject; and as in that letter he requested me to give him a vessel to take him round his

tour of the other rivers, I placed the "Minx" (who arrived in the Bonny the day before) at his disposal.

I sailed from the Bonny on the 14th, *en route* for Lagos, where I arrived on the 21st of September.

I beg to state, that at the request of the Consul and the Chiefs of the Bonny, I received on board 3 children of King Pepple, and 2 slaves that had been left behind in Bonny Town, and I transferred them to the "Minx" for a passage to Fernando Po, where it is the Consul's intention to maintain them, until Her Majesty's Government decides as to their future disposal.

The two fugitive Bonny Chiefs, Yaniboo and Ischacco, were also transferred to the "Minx," for a passage to Fernando Po.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN Mc D. SKENE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 103.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the British Supercargoes in the River Bonny, September 5, 1855.

[See Class B, Inclosure 2 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 103.

The Supercargoes of Vessels in the River Bonny to Acting Consul Lynslager, September 6, 1855.

[See Class B, Inclosure 3 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 103.

Acting Consul Lynslager and Commander Skene to the Bonny Chiefs, September 6, 1855.

[See Class B, Inclosure 4 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 103.

Minutes of a Conference held at the house of Anne Pepple, Chief of the River Bonny, on Friday, September 7, 1855.

[See Class B, Inclosure 9 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 8 in No. 103.

SECOND CONFERENCE.

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Market-place of the River Bonny, on Saturday, September 8, 1855.

Present :

J. W. B. Lynslager, Esq., Acting British Consul.
Lieutenant Boger, H.M.S. "Philomel."
Mr. T. M. Simpson, Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.
The British Supercargoes.
The Chiefs of the River Bonny.

CONSUL LYNLAGER addressed the Chiefs, and stated that the man-of-war had not come to make war palaver for them; that he was very sorry to hear of Dapho's death. King Pepple do bad for Bonny people, and they say they no want him for King any more. Dapho then come up for King. He (the Consul) write plenty of times to the Chiefs, and ask if they want Pepple back again; they make book, and say they no want him any more. Pepple wished to go to Eboe by the Old Calabar river; wrote to England about him; he tried stop trade through Old Calabar to Eboe.

The Consul then drew their attention to Awanta's case, who killed two white men, who was sent to Ascension, not killed. Pepple is now in Ascension, and can never return to Bonny any more. Pepple's son is on board the "Philomel," all Pepple's people killed. King Dapho no heir at present; Chiefs to elect a Regency; not white man's palaver—their own choice; country palavers not white man's business. Pepple can't come back, and Fred and Yaniboo can't come back either no more.

Jack Brown rose, and said white man be jew-jew; suppose then two man been take his own canoe; no palaver, but he go for Captain Witt's boat for him ship.

Captain Wylie explained that if Captain Witt had got to Fernando Po first, the man would have been brought back.

The Chiefs said the supercargoes knew of the arming of houses before the outbreak broke out. Captain Hart, a native, said Fred had poisoned him as he was sick.

CLASS A.

T

The Consul said he thought the Chiefs wished the country to fall down, when they had stopped the trade.

Jack Brown asked which way he fear—white man be jew-jew.

Captain Corran here addressed the Chiefs for the supercargoes, and stated that they had sent the men to Fernando Po, thinking that in two or three days all would have gone on as usual.

The Chiefs said white man be jew-jew; no man can put hand for Captain Witt. If white man do anything bad, must be referred to Court.

The Consul stated that a white man had no business to strike a black man.

The Chiefs did not state any instance of this.

Anne Pepple stated that when King died, Fred armed his house, and told his people if any one came to the house, to kill all.

Manilla Pepple rose, and said they had heard all; that if Yaniboo and Ischacco did not come on shore, no man could go on board of a ship in the river; and that the Slave Trade was lost now to them.

The Chiefs said they hear what Consul say; they done talk. We remember them; and if they don't get the men, then Captain Witt must take away his ship.

The Consul explained that it was white man's fashion, and that any other supercargo in the river would have done the same.

The Chiefs said it was Witt's palaver in taking away the men in his boat, and that the firing commenced immediately after.

The supercargoes denied having any previous knowledge of this outbreak.

The Chiefs said that when the palaver came up, they sent three boys to see if it was true; that Captain Witt had taken the men, when they killed two, and one was wounded. As Witt took these men, he must go home in his empty ship, or he must pay.

The Consul said if any of the Chiefs wished to go on board of the "Philomel," they could do so at any time they chose.

The Conference then broke up.

Note.—The man alluded to as "Fred Pepple," in these Conferences, is Ischacco, the Bonny Chief, mentioned in the supercargoes' letter to the Consul of the 6th September, making his escape with the other Chief Yaniboo.

Inclosure 9 in No. 103.

THIRD CONFERENCE.

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Town of Bonny, on Monday, September 10, 1855.

Present:

J. W. B. Lynslager, Acting British Consul.
 Commander Skene, H.M.S. "Philomel."
 Officers, H.M.S. "Philomel."
 Mr. T. M. Simpson, Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.
 The British Supercargoes.
 The Chiefs of the River Bonny.

THE Consul addressed the Chiefs, stating that the palaver was now all but settled; that it was only for pay palaver now; that it was an old fashion if a native took refuge in an English ship, that he was quite safe and free.

The Consul then explained to the Chiefs that Pepple and his servants were subsisted at the expense of the British Government, and that it was now impossible for them to pay anything more for doing good; that Captain Witt only did it out of good feeling; that these two men would never be again seen in the Bonny; that they would be entirely removed. The Consul stated that the "Philomel" did not come for war; that they wanted the trade opened, and that it was impossible to pay for this.

A boy of the late King Dapho's here stepped forward, named Ogoloo, who stated that they wanted the two men named Ischacco and Yaniboo; that he knew they had killed the king, and they wanted them, to kill them also.

The Consul said they could not get them.

Anne Pepple and Jack Brown said the Bonny Chiefs wanted these two men. The Consul say he cannot give them, as they now live under the flag of England.

The Chiefs say, if they cannot get the men, that Captain Witt must go away altogether, as no man would trade with them.

The Consul could not agree to this.

Captain Caine proposed to the Chiefs that they allow Captain Witt to fill his ship, and if they were not satisfied then, that they could object to his further stay.

Ogoloo, the late King Dapho's boy, then spoke relative to some coral owing to the late King Dapho by Captain Glanville, which was amicably arranged.

The Chiefs then complained of the amount of comeypaid to the ex-King Pepple, and stated that it was a great hardship for them.

The Consul stated that he would allow it to be discontinued, on which the Chiefs said palaver was done, and that Captain Witt might remain until he had filled his ship.

The Chiefs then spoke of some poor men, who cut wood, sold fish, &c., &c., who could not obtain a livelihood in any other manner, whose wood the supercargoes refused to purchase; also the jew-jew people, who formerly went on board the ship and were presented with bread, beef, pork, &c., &c., but which had now been discontinued.

The supercargoes said that the jew-jew could not be recognized on board an English ship. With regard to the wood, the supercargoes stated that those who had cut wood were in the habit of cutting

it so small that it was useless. However, it was agreed upon that if the people cut the wood a proper size, that it would be purchased.

The collection of the custom bar was brought forward, and as the Treaty entered on that tax, it was left as it was.

Jack Brown stated that he had not sufficient remuneration for the pilotage of vessels.

The Chiefs then stated that as they could not get the two men, they would leave that palaver alone; only no one must mention their names any more to any one in the river.

The Consul then called the attention of the Chiefs to the appointment of a Regency, and said that he had no right to interfere in this palaver. The Chiefs retired to consult, when a deputation of traders came to the Consul and Commander Skene, and requested that they would appoint a Regency, as the Chiefs' choice might not give satisfaction.

The Consul, on consulting with the supercargoes, found that the most eligible persons were—

Anne Pepple,
Ada Alison,

Captain Hart,
Manilla Pepple,

the last-named to be assisted by Bannego and Oko Jumbo in all his transactions.

The Conference then broke up, and the Consul and Commander Skene agreed to return next day.

Inclosure 10 in No. 103.

FOURTH CONFERENCE.

Minutes of a Conference held at the house of Anne Pepple, on Tuesday, September 11, 1855.

Present :

J. W. B. Lynslager, Esq., Acting British Consul.
Commander Skene, H.M.S. "Philomel."
Lieutenant Boger, H.M.S. "Philomel."
Mr. T. M. Simpson, Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.
The British Supercargoes.
The Bonny Chiefs.

COMMANDER SKENE opened the proceedings by reading the Commission for the Regency, which was translated by Captain Wylie.

The Consul stated that the Regents had now charge of the country, and if any palaver came up, to appeal to him.

Anne Pepple wished some recompense for keeping the Slave Trade Treaty. He then spoke of any slaver coming into the river, how was he to act. Consul gave him same power as King Dapho had to seize any slaver and break her up—not to be any white man's palaver at all.

The comeys at present due were to be divided as under :—

One vessel due by Captain Stowe to Chiefs, all the rest due to Dapho's executors; and if Captain Glanville's ship remained here, her comey was to be given to the Chiefs; any other ships that may come into the river after this date, to be paid comey to the Chiefs.

Charley Africa brought a complaint against Captain Wylie, which resulted in Charley Africa being made out to be a very bad, and if he could, dishonest, trader.

The Consul called Anne Pepple's attention to the cutting of casks by the Bonny people, which resulted in a serious loss to the supercargoes trading in the river.

Anne Pepple answered that it was done by some foolish boys, and that the traders were unaware of it themselves.

The endeavours of the Consul to get the Regents to sign a document to leave off this bad practice were unavailing.

After a little more very uninteresting conversation the Conference broke up.

Inclosure 11 in No. 103.

Document establishing a Regency in the River Bonny.

[See Class B, Inclosure 11 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 12 in No. 103.

Document establishing the payment of "Comeys" in the River Bonny.

[See Class B, Inclosure 12 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 13 in No. 103.

Document rescinding Annual Payment to King Pepple by the Bonny Chiefs.

[See Class B, Inclosure 10 in No. 48.]

Inclosure 14 in No. 103.

The Supercargoes of Vessels in the River Bonny to Commander Skene.

Dear Sir,

Bonny River, September 13, 1855.

IN behalf of the mercantile firms represented by us, and in accordance with our own feelings, we, the Undersigned, respectfully tender you our grateful thanks for your valuable assistance, in settling the "palaver" between the natives and ourselves. We esteem it a very fortunate circumstance that a gentleman so eminently qualified in every respect for producing a moral and salutary influence upon the minds of these people should have been enabled to favour us with a visit, for we do assure you, from our knowledge and experience of these people, that your urbanity, prudence, patience, and firmness, were of very great effect in inducing them to forego their sanguinary claims and desires.

We regret not being more frequently favoured by such gentlemen as yourself, who not only produce a beneficial effect by your presence and demeanour, but also uphold the dignity and honour of that renowned service of which you are an ornament.

We shall not neglect to forward to our respective firms our appreciation of your conduct and the high sense we entertain of your abilities.

Wishing you health, and the success you really deserve, we are, &c.

(Signed)

W. H. L. CORRAN,

Chairman of the Court of Equity, and Agent for Messrs. Stewart and Douglas.

E. WYLIE,

Agent for Messrs. C. Horsfall and Co.

CHAS. CAINE,

Agent for Messrs. Wilson and Dawson.

G. H. WITT,

Agent for Messrs. T. Tobin and Son.

G. L. STOWE,

Agent for Messrs. Hatton and Cookson.

W. YALLOP,

Agent for Messrs. Hatton and Cookson.

JOHN GLANVILLE,

Agent for Messrs. Th. Harrison and Co.

REUBEN HEMINGWAY,

Agent for Messrs. Stewart and Douglas.

Inclosure 15 in No. 103.

Additional Article to the Bonny Commercial Treaty, dated October 3, 1850.

THAT from and after this date no supercargo trading in this river shall receive on board of his vessel any native or refugee, without the consent of the Chiefs.

Given under our hands on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Philomel," in the River Bonny, this 12th day of September, 1855.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Acting British Consul for the Bight of Biafra.

JOHN Mc D. SKENE,

Commander and Senior Officer of the Bights Division.

Inclosure 16 in No. 103.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Commander Skene.

Sir,

"Philomel," River Bonny, September 13, 1855.

THE presence of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," under your command, has restored quietness among the natives, and the trade has been again resumed with the British vessels lying there.

The able assistance yourself and Lieutenant Boger have given me has tended in a great measure to this result, and I return you my most sincere thanks for that assistance, without which there would have been a very serious loss to several British merchants; the natives holding trust to the amount of 80,000*l.* sterling, and the value of the shipping and cargoes being of the estimated value of 800,000*l.*, which was very much endangered previous to your timely arrival, but which is now quite safe.

I am certain you must see the urgent necessity for the Consul visiting the rivers more frequently than has been the custom, to arrange any differences that may arise between the supercargoes and the natives.

As Her Majesty's ship "Minx" is now in this river, I beg to request that you will permit her to proceed to the Rivers New Calabar, Old Calabar, Cameroons, and Bimbia.

These rivers have not been visited since February last, and several applications have been made to me to visit them, but my requisition for Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope" could not be complied with; and although the "Minx" is rather unfitted for that purpose, having little accommodation, I will take advantage of this opportunity, as another may not occur for some time.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 104.

Commodore Adams to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received March 6, 1856.)

(Extract.)

"Scourge," Cape Coast Castle, December 17, 1855.

ADVERTING to my letter of the 12th November last, inclosing a correspondence which had taken place between Commander Leckie, of the "*Ferret*," and the British and Spanish Commission Court at Sierra Leone, I beg to forward, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copy of a letter which I have since received from that officer, reporting that on his arrival there he found that the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" (which had been sent in for adjudication by Her Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*") had been released and restored to the owners without costs.

This is a case which I feel it my duty to represent in the strongest manner to their Lordships as establishing a precedent fraught with the utmost danger to the effectual suppression of the Slave Trade. In my previous letter I have called attention to the highly irregular proceeding (as I conceive) of the prize-crew having been removed whilst the Spanish crew was allowed to remain on board during the process of adjudication. I now beg to point out the extraordinary nature of the Decree of the Court respecting her. Their Lordships will observe that the vessel was released without costs, damages, or expenses, incurred in consequence of her seizure, which was, by the same Court, declared to be a legal seizure. Nevertheless, on the face of this, it is further decreed that the expenses of landing and reshipping the cargo, of refitting and restowing her, &c., are to be borne equally by captors and claimants: this certainly appears to me to be contradictory, and that the former part of the Decree must render nugatory the latter, or *vice versa*.

It is worthy of remark that this vessel was consigned to a certain Domingo Mustich, a Spaniard, concerning whom I have recently received information from Her Majesty's Consul at Tenerife of a nature which goes far to prove that this individual was at one time engaged in the Slave Trade; at any rate it is known that his brother, Don Pedro Mustich, had a factory at Whydah, and is associated with the well-known slave-dealers Souza and Martinez. Don Domingo is said to be in the Havana prosecuting some case arising out of the Slave Trade transaction.

Inclosure in No. 104.

Commander Leckie to Commodore Adams.

(Extract.)

"Ferret," Sierra Leone, November 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that on my arrival here I found the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" detained and sent in here by Her Majesty's ships "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*" for adjudication in the Court of Mixed Commission, had, by the decree of that Court, been released and restored to the owners "without costs, damages, or expenses, incurred in consequence of the aforesaid seizure." She was also, by the sentence of the Court, declared to have been lawfully detained, and yet, in spite of this, an addendum is made to the decree to the effect that "the expenses attendant on the landing and stowage and reshipment of the cargo are to be equally divided between the captors and claimants; also the expenses of refitting her, restoring her to the state she was in at the time of detention."

I have already had the honour of calling your attention to this most interesting case—one, I think, of the utmost discouragement to the effectual working of the present system for the suppression of the Slave Trade, kept up at such an enormous expense to Her Majesty's Government. It is an unprecedented case in many points, and a most unfair one to the officers and men employed on this duty, and if allowed to pass unnoticed will, I think, tend to shield the slave-dealer, and to enhance the difficulties of a condemnation, even with glaring proofs of criminality, and also cause the captains and commanders of Her Majesty's ships to fear the risk of heavy costs and damages, and to weigh the damages, arduous labour, sickness, &c., men and officers incur in most cases of capture, against the slight chance of the condemnation of any vessel under Spanish colours, and slacken their ardour in the execution of such duties, and I beg to state the grounds for this opinion.

Firstly. By the order of the Court the Spanish crew, fifteen in number, were retained on board,

with only a slight guard of Sierra Leone blacks, and the captors' crew removed; thus putting in the power of the Spaniards to destroy evidence by throwing overboard irons, shackles, coppers, &c., or even effecting an escape from the harbour—a thing most probable if there be no man of war in port.

Secondly. It was proved in Court that this vessel was consigned to Don Domingo Mustich, and belonged to a Barcelona house of which Don Mustich is reported a partner: he himself is under strong suspicion of having been engaged in slave-dealing, and his brother was, if he is not now, the most extensive slave-dealer at Badagry and Whydah, and that part of the coast. The schooner "*Mariana*" is connected with the "*Fernando Po*," belongs to the same owners, and has been proved in Court to have inquired for slaves along the coast of Liberia. The "*Fernando Po*" had an extraordinary number of water-casks on board without the certificate required by the Treaty between England and Spain; the letter from the owners, ordering the cargo to be obtained, had amongst the articles enumerated, the significant words, "and what we spoke about before you left;" she had no cowries on board, the only exchange almost the natives who trade in palm oil receive, but has rum, tobacco, &c., the usual exchange for slaves.

Thirdly. The sentence of the Court proves the justness of the detention, and orders release without costs, and yet, in direct contradiction of that sentence, makes the captors pay half the expenses.

EAST COAST OF AFRICA STATION.

No. 105.

Commodore Trotter to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received April 19.)

Sir,

“*Seringapatam*,” *Simon’s Bay*, February 24, 1855.

HER Majesty’s Consul at the Comoro Islands having, on the 18th of May last, made application to Commodore Talbot for one of Her Majesty’s ships to convey him from Johanna to Mohilla and Comoro for the purpose of concluding Treaties for the suppression of Slave Trade in pursuance of instructions he had received from Her Majesty’s Secretary of State, Commander Kerr, of Her Majesty’s sloop “*Nerbudda*,” was directed by Commander Morris, the senior officer of this station, to call for the Consul on his return to the Mozambique, and to proceed with him on this duty. I have now the honour to inclose an extract of a letter from Commander Kerr, together with copies of two Treaties which, in conjunction with Her Majesty’s Consul, were entered into with the Queen of Mohilla and the Chief of one of the principal districts of Comoro.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. D. TROTTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 105.

Commander Kerr to Commodore Trotter.

(Extract.)

Mauritius, January 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that after leaving Simon’s Bay on the 18th of August, 1854, I sailed for Johanna, and (having sighted Quillimane on the passage), arrived on the 10th September. Mr. William Sunley, Her Majesty’s Consul, came on board on the 13th, and I proceeded with him to visit the Comoro Islands, for the purpose of making Treaties.

Having made a Treaty with the Queen of Mohilla, and another with the Chief of one of the principal districts of Comoro, to the satisfaction of the Consul (copies of which I herewith inclose), and being unable to exchange documents with the other district in consequence of its being infected with small-pox, I returned to Johanna on the 28th, and landed the Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 105.

Treaty between the Queen of England and the Queen of Mohilla. Concluded at Fumbani, September 16, 1854.

STATEMENT of the requisition made to Her Majesty the Queen of Mohilla, by William Sunley, Her Britannic Majesty’s Consul for the Comoro Islands, and Henry A. Kerr, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty’s sloop “*Nerbudda*” (acting under the orders of Henry G. Morris, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty’s ship “*Hydra*,” and Senior Officer of the East Coast of Africa).

AGREEMENT made by the Queen of Mohilla with William Sunley, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty’s Consul for the Comoro Islands, and Henry A. Kerr, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty’s sloop “*Nerbudda*.” (Translated from the original paper, under the hand and seal of the Queen of the Queen of Mohilla.)

1. The Queen to abolish foreign Slave Trade for ever in her dominions.

1. There shall be no dealing in slaves in my country.

2. The Queen to order the seizure of all vessels belonging to her subjects found carrying on the foreign Slave Traffic, and to seize and punish the captain and crew as pirates, and all other vessels bringing slaves to this island to be treated in like manner.

3. The Queen to punish all persons among her subjects serving on board vessels dealing in slaves, who do not give information to the Queen or her Governors that they have been slave-dealing.

4. Vessels having implements of Slave Trade, such as shackles, bolts, handcuffs, chains, whips, branding-irons, on board, to be considered the same as if found actually carrying slaves.

5. The Queen to authorize British cruisers to seize all vessels belonging to her subjects that may be found with slaves or slave implements on board, after the expiration of four months from this date.

6. The Queen or her Governors to provide all vessels belonging to her subjects with passes (port clearance); any vessel found without such port-clearance to be seized, according to the 5th requisition, by any British cruiser that may meet them.

7. All vessels seized by British cruisers to be sent to the nearest or most convenient British Vice-Admiralty Court for adjudication. In the event of being condemned, the vessels and cargoes to be sold for the profit of the two Governments, but the slaves set free in a British Colony.

8. The Queen to at once proclaim a law, by which the stipulations of this Engagement shall be made publicly known to all her people.

(Signed)

Witnesses to Treaty:

(Signed)

HENRY W. WRIGHT, *Lieutenant, H.B.M.'s sloop "Nerbudda."*
CHARLES RICHARDS, *Paymaster, H.B.M.'s sloop "Nerbudda."*

2. All my people who deal in slaves shall be punished the same as those who steal men, and other vessels bringing slaves to my country shall be seized.

3. All my people that shall make work on board slave-vessels, and all my people that help Slave Trade, shall be punished.

4. Any vessel that has irons or other things for fastening slaves shall be seized the same as vessels that have slaves on board.

5. English men-of-war may seize Mohilla vessels that make trade in slaves.

6. All Mohilla vessels to get passports.

7. Any vessel seized to be sent to an English place to be judged, the slaves let go free, and the ship and cargo sold, one-half to go to the Queen, and one-half to the English Government.

8. The Queen has told this Agreement to all her subjects.

Done at Fumbani, Island of Mohilla, in duplicate originals, September 16, 1854.

FOMBEEFATOMA EBNTYTOLOTOANI

ABODEREHEMANI, *Queen of Mohilla.*

WM. SUNLEY, *Her Britannic Majesty's*

Consul for the Comoro Islands.

H. A. KERR, *Commander H.B.M.'s sloop "Nerbudda."*

Inclosure 3 in No. 105.

*Treaty between Her Majesty the Queen of England and Bonafooma, a principal Chief of Comoro.
Concluded at his town, Ytsanda, September 20, 1854.*

STATEMENT of the requisition made to Bonafooma, one of the principal Chiefs of Comoro, by William Sunley, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Comoro Islands, and Henry A. Kerr, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Nerbudda" (acting under the orders of Henry G. Morris, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Hydra," and Senior Officer on the East Coast of Africa).

1. The Chief to abolish slave-trading for ever in his territory.

2. The Chief to order the seizure of all vessels belonging to his subjects found carrying on the foreign Slave Traffic, and to seize and punish the captain and crew as pirates, and all other vessels bringing slaves to his territory to be treated in like manner.

3. The Chief to punish all persons among his subjects serving on board vessels dealing in slaves who do not give information to the Chief that they have been slave-dealing.

4. Vessels having implements of Slave Trade, such as shackles, bolts, handcuffs, chains, whips, branding-irons, on board, to be considered the same as if found actually carrying slaves.

5. The Chief to authorize British cruisers to seize all vessels belonging to his subjects that may be found with slaves or slave implements on board, after four months from this date.

AGREEMENT made by Bonafooma, one of the principal Chiefs of Comoro, with William Sunley, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Comoro Islands, and Henry A. Kerr, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Nerbudda."

1. There shall be no dealing in slaves in my territory.

2. All my people who deal in slaves shall be punished the same as those who steal men, and other vessels bringing slaves to my territory shall be seized.

3. All my people that make work on board slave-vessels, and all my people that help Slave Trade, shall be punished.

4. Any vessel that has irons or other things for fastening slaves, shall be seized the same as vessels that have slaves on board.

5. English men-of-war may seize any of my people's vessels that deal in slaves.

6. The Chief or Governor to provide all vessels belonging to his subjects with passes (port-clearance); any vessel found without such port-clearance to be seized, according to the 5th requisition, by any British cruiser that may meet them.

7. All vessels seized by British cruisers to be sent to the nearest or most convenient British Vice-Admiralty Court for adjudication. In the event of being condemned, the vessels and their cargoes to be sold for the profit of the Chief and the English Government, but the slaves to be set free in a British Colony.

8. The Chief at once to proclaim a law by which the stipulations of this Agreement shall be publicly known to all his people.

6. All my people's vessels to get passports.

7. Any vessels seized to be sent to an English place to be judged; the slaves let go free, and the ship and cargo sold—one-half to go to me, and one-half to the English Government.

8. The Chief has told this Agreement to all his people.

Done at Ytsanda, Island of Comoro, in duplicate originals, September 20, 1854.

(Signed) BONAFOOMA,
Chief of Ytsanda, Island of Comoro.
WM. SUNLEY,
H.B.M.'s Consul for the Comoro Islands.
H. A. KERR,
Commander, H.B.M.'s sloop "Nerbudda."

Witnesses to Treaty:

(Signed) HENRY W. WRIGHT, Lieutenant, H.B.M.'s sloop "Nerbudda."
CHAS. RICHARDS, Paymaster, H.B.M.'s sloop "Nerbudda."

No. 106.

Commander Nolloth to Commodore Trotter.

(Extract.)

"Frolic," Simon's Bay, December 27, 1855.

WITH reference to the 8th paragraph of your orders of the 16th August, I have the honour to make the following statement, which contains all the information I have been able to gain on the subject at the various places visited by the "Frolic."

2. In St. Augustine's Bay, Madagascar, I found the brig "Panthère," of Bourbon, 172 tons, waiting for a cargo of natives for Bourbon, and was informed that a larger vessel was daily expected.

3. Every vessel authorised to import "émigrés," or "travailleurs," or "cultivateurs," as they are indifferently called, carries a military officer, whose duty it is to see that the Government regulations are complied with, and no engagement with the natives is valid without his sanction. A vessel of 700 tons which left St. Augustine's Bay some time ago carried an officer of captain's rank.

4. One tenth of the natives imported should be females. A fine of ten piastres is imposed for each female short, and a premium of the same amount is granted for each one in excess of this proportion. Children cannot be taken unless accompanied by one parent.

5. In Madagascar, negroes of various tribes are brought from different parts (of which I could gain no certain information) to the shipping places, and handed over to Bourbon agents, who, on being apprized of the arrival of an "émigré" vessel, send to the various native parties connected with them, and the negroes are marched to the coast by daily stages of from ten to twenty miles, and generally arrive in very good condition. The "Panthère" had in six weeks procured 35 healthy and cheerful "émigrés," and reckoned on about a month's further detention to enable her to complete her complement of 172; the number allowed to be carried being one per ton burden of the vessel.

6. By the Government regulations none can be engaged under promise of lower wages than 2 piastres (8 shillings) per head for men, 1½ piastres for women, and 1 piastre for children from 10 years to 14 years of age; nor without an agreement for a free passage back, if required, at the expiration of their term of engagement, which cannot exceed five nor be less than three years. No price can legally be paid to other parties for the delivery of negroes, who are supposed to understand and to make the above bargain on their own account, and no slave can be brought on the plea of intending immediate manumission; but I am informed that a cadeau of 28 francs, or of articles to this amount, per head, is usually presented to the chief or person in charge of the gang. The price

ordinarily received by the importers from the Bourbon planters averages 100 piastres for each grown male, and 60 piastres for each female.

7. In 1854, 4,120 negroes were imported into Bourbon; this is the greatest number yet obtained in one year.

8. In answer to inquiry as to the number and fate of the returned "émigrés," I was informed that the chief portion returned with the greater part of the proceeds of their hire, and that the "Panthère" herself had recently landed 100 who had completed their time; but that "those who had been slaves in their own country, or who could not reckon upon their freedom at home, remained at Bourbon."

9. I may add that, having inquired of a Chief in this bay, he said that no man was ever forced by the French to ship at St. Augustine's Bay against his will, and he and others spoke very favourably of the French, and very disparagingly of the class who were shipped, styling them useless fellows who possessed nothing, and could not get a living in their own country. The St. Augustines doubtless derive some advantage from their place being one of export.

10. I could gather no trustworthy information regarding the condition of the returned negroes, namely, as to whether the great benefit which Bourbon must derive from so near a mine of labour is to any amount reciprocated, and the evils inseparable from this mode of obtaining labourers in any small degree compensated by frequent supplies of men accustomed to the quiet, and to some of the wants, of civilized life, and somewhat acquainted with the means of turning the fertility of their own soil to account.

11. I was informed that some of the shipping places are, Cape St. Mary's, Port Dauphin, Lucca, Raufus, and various parts of the West Coast of Madagascar, between St. Augustine's and Nos Bé; also that, occasionally, negroes are brought by Arabs from the coast of Africa to the agents in Madagascar.

12. The Governor of Quillimane knew nothing of the French "émigré" system, beyond a report of their having, a long time ago, obtained negroes from the coast of Mozambique, and the fact of no French agent having yet visited his district.

13. At Johanna the Consul stated that no attempt had been made at the island since the failure of a French agent a considerable time ago; also that, in his opinion, negroes were occasionally conveyed by Arabs from the coast of Africa to the Comoro Islands, where they were handed over to French vessels. A native of Angoxa, a well-informed travelling trader, informed me that, in his opinion, the last attempt to procure émigrés by the French in the Portuguese territory was in the early part of 1854, when Arab dhows had conveyed negroes to agents on the south-west coast of Madagascar from Pomba, Mirzembe, Kombousi, Masozrein, and Macomba.

14. At Zanzibar, Colonel Hamerton stated his belief that no émigrés had been procured by the French from the Imaum's territories since the beginning of 1854, owing to stringent instructions from the French Government to the Government of Bourbon, consequent on a remonstrance from the Imaum; and he informed me that since the prohibition, a French vessel of 400 tons had cruized on the coast for five months, endeavouring to procure negroes at various places within the Imaum's dominions, but had totally failed, and that 8,000 dollars are supposed to have sunk in the venture. He also expressed his opinion that the French had never obtained, in the Imaum's territories, more than a few negroes at Zanzibar, who were taken to Nos Bé, and some forty or fifty Beloochees and half-caste Arabs procured at Muscat. I was assured by an apparently well-informed European merchant that, in January or February last, 246 negroes were taken in dhows from Quiloa for a French agent somewhere on the south-west coast of Madagascar, but this was not believed by the Consul, who further informed me that the Imaum had repeated his orders against the Traffic on his departure from Zanzibar for Muscat, and that, last year, an Arab vessel had been seized at Quiloa for a contravention of this order. At this place I learnt that, some time ago, an émigré vessel from Johanna bound, I believe, to Nos Bé put in

(owing to adverse currents or some unfavourable circumstance) to Zanzibar, where several of the émigrés were recognised by their relatives and friends residing in the town. I was also assured that the Comoro Islands are a sort of entrepôt for émigrés brought from Africa in dhows, whence they are usually taken in French vessels to Nos Bé or Lamoo, where the public works of the former, and the cultivation of simsim and coffee on the latter, occasion a demand for labour, especially as, owing to the unhealthiness of the climate, fewer Frenchmen than formerly are now employed at Mayotta and its neighbouring settlements. This agrees with information received at various other places. The reason assigned for the dhows not taking the negroes direct to their destination is, that official inquiries might then be necessitated, which are not so obviously required when imported by the authorized French vessels.

15. At Mozambique I informed the Governor-General that his letter to Commander Etheridge regarding the French attempts to procure labourers from the Portuguese colonial territory, had been forwarded by you to the British Government, and inquired if any ground for complaint had subsequently arisen. His Excellency stated that no case had since occurred; that he had, simultaneously with his appeal to British authority, written a strong letter on the subject to the Governor of Bourbon, who had, in the most handsome terms, declared his determination to forbid any further visits of French émigré vessels to Portuguese territories. He added that he had firm confidence in the loyalty of the intentions of the Governor of Bourbon, and offered to show me the correspondence which had taken place between them.

16. From the statements made at various places it would seem that the far greater part of the émigrés imported for some time past (especially those to Bourbon) are natives of Madagascar, of whom many are runaway Autonos men, who flee from slavery to freedom; that those who come from Cape St. Mary's and its neighbourhood decidedly ship of their own accord; and that no émigrés are now procured from the territories of the Imaum or of the Portuguese, owing to the remonstrances which have been made to the French Government and to the Government of Bourbon; also that a few Africans now imported, are generally obtained through the Arabs (especially those taken to Mayotta and its dependencies), intermediately from the Comoro Islands.

17. Judging from a comparison of the present and past prices paid at Bourbon to the importers, and from the statements of various persons of good information, it may be supposed that, for a short time past, the supply of labourers to Bourbon has been not far from, if not quite, equal to the demand.

No. 107.

Commander Nolloth to Commodore Trotter.

Sir,

"Frolic," Simon's Bay, December 31, 1855.

1. I HAVE the honour to make the following statement, which contains all the information which I have been able to gather on Slave Trade, or subjects connected with that Traffic, during the last half-year, namely, during the late three months' cruize of the "Frolic" in the Mozambique Channel.

2. At St. Augustine's Bay I was informed that, shortly after the "Penguin's" last visit to this place, some Arab dhows brought slaves from the coast of Africa to Tallear Bay, about thirteen miles to the northward.

3. Africans are frequently conveyed by Arab vessels to various places on the west (chiefly on the north-west) coast of Madagascar, where they are exchanged for tortoise-shell, bees'-wax, sandal-wood, &c., and when a sufficiency of these articles cannot be procured, it is common for an exchange of slaves to take place at the rate of one Kaffir for two, and sometimes three, natives of the island; the tribes who are enslaved

by them being considered inferior to the Africans, and more likely to run away.

4. At Quillimane, where I arrived on the 4th of October, everything witnessed by me, or gathered from trustworthy sources, indicated the great decay of Quillimane as the great Portuguese slave-mart of former days. I saw nothing symptomatic of present commercial activity of any description. A considerable number of large canoes and boats, such as are in other places usually employed in the shipment and disembarkation of slaves, were lying on the banks of the river, all in a more or less neglected state; one small coasting vessel was lying in the river, which was about to sail for Mozambique with ivory. From the fact of the vicinity of an English vessel of war being unknown at the town till we landed, may, perhaps, be inferred the great change of this once notorious spot. A signal-staff was erected some years ago on the north extreme of Peguera Island, as an intermediate station between the town and Tangalane Point flag-staff, but no one is now stationed there; the staff on the point exchanged colours with the brig, but we did not observe any signals. The fact of a light-house having been very lately erected on Tangalane Point also seems worthy of note with reference to this subject; as a beacon to mark a river difficult of access, and whose entrance is not easily distinguished from seaward, implies greater favour to legitimate general commerce than to a traffic clandestinely carried on by parties frequently visiting, and therefore well acquainted with the locality. This light-house was undermined by heavy rains in January 1855, when a great area of country was submerged, destroying the crops and reducing the inhabitants to great want and misery, from which, at the period of my visit, they were slowly recovering.

5. I was informed that Tette, near which, for more than three years, war has been waged between the Portuguese and two tribes in the neighbourhood, is the channel through which the produce of the interior passes to Quillimane, and that this war has greatly cooperated, with the extinction of the Slave Trade, to cause the decline of Quillimane. Trade with the natives is almost at an end, and an occasional freight of ivory and tortoise-shell is all that can be procured for one or two small coasters from Mozambique, and the gold dust, which was formerly washed from the sands and taken by the natives to Tette, is no longer obtainable. This war had detained the Governor at Tette since June last; the troops prosecuting it are between 1,200 and 1,400, chiefly slaves; about 80 men are Europeans, the remains of 160 who were not long ago conveyed from Lisbon in the "Dom Fernando" frigate. This vessel brought out for the general service of the Mozambique settlements, 200 regular troops and 150 convicts to serve as soldiers. The natives have impaled or cut the throats of many of the prisoners taken.

6. By the Commandant I was informed that no regular census had ever been taken, but that the population of the Quillimane district is estimated at 8,000, of whom 17 are Portuguese. 5 only of the latter residing in the town. The few stone and brick buildings were in a dilapidated state, and the huts of the negroes are small mat coverings, indiscriminately scattered in the jungle. The only occupation witnessed by us was that of some heavily chained convicts, runaway slaves and others, including men, women, and children, employed in brick-making. The church seemed to be the only edifice in decent repair; a half-caste padre of Goa performs mass on Sunday to the Portuguese, who alone attend.

7. As the above-mentioned inland station of the Portuguese, Tette, has at present attached to it an interest from its being the first civilized spot which Mr. Livingston will reach on the East Coast of Africa, and through which he must pass on his way to Quillimane, I have inclosed an account of the times occupied in journeys between it and Quillimane under various circumstances. It is in about latitude $16^{\circ} 35'$ south, longitude $33^{\circ} 6'$ east, or about 180 miles west-north-west in a direct line from Quillimane.

8. On the 19th of October we anchored at Johanna, Comoro Islands.

9. The British Consul, Mr. Sunley, had no information to impart

beyond his conviction that no Traffic had for some time been carried on by European slavers in any part of the Mozambique Channel.

10. I was surprised to see a great number of tattooed negro youths of both sexes in the streets, many of them mere children. The few concerning whom I could procure any distinct account, and several of whom I questioned myself, had been kidnapped at Angona, or on the north-west coast of Madagascar, by Arabs. The Consul stated that the crews of the dhows were generally slaves, and that, no doubt, a fresh hand or two was occasionally shipped and sold at the island or elsewhere, whenever a profit could be realized, and in ways which it would, perhaps, be impossible to prevent.

11. The value of the exports and imports of the Comoro Islands is said to be less than 10,000*l.* a-year. Coffee, for which the soil is said to be well adapted, has but lately begun to be cultivated, and a considerable space at Johanna has been lately cleared, and will be sown when sufficient seed is procured from Bourbon. The example of French industry at Mayotta, where sugar plantations are prospering, and at Lamoo, where simsim is raised, having, it is said, somewhat stimulated the exertions of the indolent natives.

12. The population of this island is supposed to be about 1,200, of whom a very large proportion are slaves. The half-caste Arabs, who are supreme in the Comoro Islands, are indolent, and, as far as I could learn, little actual labour is performed, excepting by the negroes, the Banyans, and others; natives of India seem to be the persons chiefly employed in the various handicraft and occupations requiring diligence and intelligence. The improved cultivation of the soil and legitimate foreign traffic under such circumstances, could hardly be expected to exert a beneficial influence on the practice of domestic slavery, however much it might contribute to the discontinuance of the sale of slaves imported.

13. We arrived at Zanzibar the 9th of November; Colonel Hamerton had no specific information to impart concerning slave matters. It would appear from his account, and from all that I have been able to gather in various parts of the Mozambique, that European slaving has for some time past entirely ceased in these parts. We experienced the usual kindness from the Imaum's Government. His Highness was expected to return from Muscat about January.

14. There appears no reason to believe that, among the natives of the East Coast of Africa and Madagascar, Slave Traffic is less active at present than in former times, chiefly by Arab vessels.

15. With reference to the subjects of the Imaum of Muscat, slaving appears to be one of the chief occupations of the seafaring community. During the few days' stay of the "*Frolic*" at Zanzibar, four dhows arrived loaded with Africans, chiefly from Quiloa, which is the principal place of embarkation for negroes destined for this island, and a sale was held every afternoon at a short distance from the town. Frequent supplies are required, the mortality of slaves in the island being very great, principally owing to indifferent food and lodging and to the unhealthiness of the plantations in the interior, where a great proportion of them are employed.

16. The only European vessels present at the time of our visit were, a Spanish brig from Cadiz, and a Marseilles ship loading with ivory, gums, and the ordinary African produce, and two Hamburg vessels with cowries for Lagos. The English have no longer any trade here, having been beaten out of this market, and at Mozambique, principally by the Americans.

17. On the 3rd of December we reached Mozambique. Here, in my intercourse with the Governor-General and other persons, official and private, all the information derived tended to confirm the assertions elsewhere made, that no European slaver had, for a considerable time past, visited the Mozambique Channel.

18. At various places in the Mozambique Channel visited by the "*Frolic*," I made inquiries relative to the effect of the relaxation of the laws regarding the entry of foreign vessels to the Portuguese Settlements, and it appears that the merchants, who are anxious to open a trade with

the East Coast of Africa, universally complain of the heavy duties still levied by order of the Governor-General of Mozambique, and of the insignificance of the Decree of October 1853, which still closes to their vessels the places most worthy of visit, and most of which will, probably, remain closed as long as the non-existence of Portuguese Custom-houses is a bar to their entrance. I have been assured by persons of apparently good information that, within the 1,000 miles of coast claimed by the Portuguese, there is not, in the aggregate, more than 50 miles on which a Portuguese official could safely land. The greatest extent of their undisputed coast is said to be near Quillimane. Within the nominal territory of the Portuguese are various communities of Moors who fly the Arab flag, and who, although they consider themselves a distinct people, look up with respect to the Imaum of Muscat as the religious head of the Mussulmans in those parts. These Moors are said to be fond of trade and of travelling in search of it, and it is chiefly through them that the produce of the interior reaches the European vessels visiting the coast; ivory, oil, seeds, Colombo-root, fancy and furniture woods, dye-stuffs, tortoise-shell, &c., being exchanged for European articles, for their own use and for their inland traffic with the negroes.

19. It may be supposed that the cessation of the foreign Slave Trade must have increased the desire of the natives generally for unrestricted legitimate commerce with Europe, as it was, in a great measure, by its means that they were formerly supplied with European goods; articles to the use of which the people of the coast, and, through them, many in the interior must have been long accustomed, but the knowledge of and desire for which must decline in the absence of either Slave or sufficient ordinary foreign Traffic.

20. A brig of war and a schooner were on the point of leaving Mozambique for Angoxa with troops, and I was informed, by good authority, that the purpose of this visit was to take possession of and fortify a point near the entrance of the river; that the Sultan had, for some time past, given trouble, and that it was now intended to "coerce subordination," but that, at present, no avoidable collision would take place with the natives. Considering that fifty or sixty dhows visit Angoxa in the course of the year with American powder, muskets, and cottons, it seems probable that this is a step of the Governor-General towards establishing custom-houses by virtue of the IInd Article of the Decree of October 1853, regarding new fiscal ports.

21. With reference to the importation of negroes as "émigrés" or "cultivateurs" or "travailleurs" from Africa, and from Madagascar to the Isle of Réunion or Bourbon, I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 27th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. S. NOLLOTH.

Inclosure in No. 107.

Memorandum of Times occupied by Voyages between Quillimane and Tette.

I.—From Quillimane to Tette, in the rainy season—

1. From Quillimane to Mogurrumba in both rainy and dry seasons—takes three flood tides.
2. From Mogurrumba to Mazoro, embarked in almadias—two days.
3. From Mazoro to Senna, embarked in lanchas, escalores, coches, or almadias—eight days.
4. From Senna to Tette, embarked in any of the above-mentioned boats—thirty days.

II.—From Quillimane to Tette, in the dry season—

1. From Quillimane to Mogurrumba, as in the rainy season—takes three flood tides.
2. From Mogurrumba to Mazoro, conveyed in machillas by two negroes, carrying also a load of baggage of two or three mudas weight—two days by land.
3. From Mazoro to Senna, in any of the before-mentioned boats—four days.
4. From Senna to Tette in the same boats—ten days.

N.B.—If great haste be required, or when less weight is carried, this voyage may in the dry season be made in about two-thirds of the time stated.

III.—From Tette to Quillimane, when the rains are sufficient to open a communication between the Rivers Ambeze and Quillimane, which circumstance is of very uncertain occurrence, not taking place sometimes for several years—

1. From Tette to Senna in any of the before-mentioned boats—one day and a-half.
2. From Senna to Quillimane in the same boats—two and a-half days.

N.B.—In the times given for the voyage down the river, the nights are not reckoned, as neither with a full or low river is it customary to travel by night, on account of the dangers on the way.

IV.—From Tette to Quillimane when the river is not very full—

1. From Tette to Senna, in any of the before-mentioned boat—takes four days.
2. From Senna to Mazoro in the same boats—two days.
3. From Mazoro to Mogurrumba (carried as before in machillas)—two days by land.
4. From Mogurrumba to Quillimane in boats as before mentioned—three ebb tides.

N.B.—In the winter months (January, February, and March), negro messengers go from Quillimane to Tette by land.

According to circumstances, the state of the river^l at the time, &c., a greater or fewer number of days is required for the above voyages than specified.

The latitude and longitude of Tette were not procurable at Quillimane, and I was informed at Mozambique that the longitude given to Mr. Livingston was erroneous.

On applying for any astronomically or other fixed places, the only observation furnished was Senna Villa (by the celestial observations of a Portuguese officer of Engineers), latitude $17^{\circ} 30'$ south, longitude $35^{\circ} 34' 40''$ east from Greenwich.

The latitude and longitude by Owen are $17^{\circ} 30'$ south, and $35^{\circ} 44'$ east. Most probably the figures given to me are taken from these: the longitude miscopied.

(Signed) M. S. NOLLOTH.

No. 108.

Commodore Trotter to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received March 12.)

Sir,

“Castor,” Simon’s Bay, January 10, 1856.

IN reference to your letter of the 5th March last, conveying to me their Lordships’ directions to order the commanding officers of any cruizers in the Mozambique Channel to make inquiries at Quillimane respecting the Rev. Dr. Livingston, who was expected at that place in November last from across the continent of Africa, I request you will inform their Lordships that Her Majesty’s ship “Frolic,” during her late cruize in the Mozambique, called twice at Quillimane, in October and December, but that Commander Nolloth was not successful in obtaining intelligence of this enterprising traveller.

I beg to inclose, for their Lordships’ information, extracts from Commander Nolloth’s letter of proceedings which relate to Dr. Livingston, as also an interesting translation from the Mozambique Government “Gazette” of the 17th March, 1855, which he procured at that place, relating to the return of certain Moors who had succeeded in recrossing the deserts which separate the eastern and western parts of Africa.

Her Majesty’s brigantine “Dart” (tender to “Castor”), under the command of Mr. James P. McClure, second master, now on the eve of departure from this port for the Mozambique, is ordered to proceed to Quillimane to afford the Rev. Dr. Livingston all the assistance he may require, should he have reached that place; but in the event of his not having arrived, the “Dart” is to cruize for the suppression of the Slave Trade and the protection of commerce, leaving a letter for Dr. Livingston stating when he will be back, and taking care not to be absent from Quillimane more than three weeks at any one time.

Dr. Livingston is to be offered a passage to the Cape of Good Hope in the “Dart” if he wishes it.

Commander Nolloth, of Her Majesty’s “Frolic,” reports that his Excellency the Governor of Quillimane has caused every arrangement to be made to ensure the comfort of Dr. Livingston, and his safe arrival on the coast, whenever he may place his foot within the Portuguese territory.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. D. TROTTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 108.

Commander Nolloth to Commander Trotter.

(Extract.)

"Frolic," December 27, 1855.

AT 8 A.M. I left with the cutter and whaler, and passing over the "ship's bar" in tolerably smooth water, arrived at Quillimane at noon.

16. I was informed by the Commandant that the Governor had been in the interior (at Tette) since June. I made him acquainted with the case of Mr. Livingston, and gave him the translation of Mr. Gabriel's letter from Loanda concerning him, and expressed the great interest felt in Europe for his safe arrival at Quillimane. The Commandant stated that Mr. Livingston must pass through Tette to reach Quillimane, and assured me that no pains would be spared by the Governor or by any Government officer, to promote the health and comfort of so distinguished a traveller, should he fortunately make his appearance in their territory, but he added that little hope could be entertained of a safe issue of so hazardous an enterprise, taking into consideration merely one inhospitable portion of East Africa adjoining Quillimane district, which he would have to traverse. On pointing out, in Mr. Gabriel's letter, the statement regarding the arrival at Benguella from Zanzibar, of a small band of Arabs in 1852, he informed me that these men had safely reached Mozambique, where their feat had excited much sensation, and before I left, he put into my hands the Mozambique Government Gazette, from which the inclosure is a translation.

56. On the 5th of December we left Mozambique for Quillimane. We experienced, at from twenty to thirty miles from the shore, a favourable current of about two-thirds of a mile an hour in about the direction of the coast, and arrived off Quillimane river on the 8th.

57. The Governor arrived on the 28th of November from Tette, which he left on the 1st, but I regret to report that he had no intelligence whatever of Mr. Livingstone to communicate; he had received the letters left at Quillimane at our first visit, which had been forwarded express to him, and he assured me that he had given ample directions providing for the traveller's welfare, should he make his appearance at Tette, and that he had ordered his own dwellings at that place and at Senna to be placed at his disposal, and he was good enough to say that he would send still further directions.

58. There being no expectations of Dr. Livingston's speedy arrival, we left Quillimane on the 10th of December, although we still had three weeks' provisions remaining, as we had experienced considerable sickness in the Channel, especially after visiting Zanzibar, having lost two of the ship's company out of a large sick list of officers and men, of whom two more were in a very precarious state, and I thought it advisable to return at once to Simon's Bay, as directed by you, if it should not be found convenient to visit Sofola and Delagoa Bays.

Inclosure 2 in No. 108.

Extract from the Mozambique "Government Gazette" of March 17, 1855.

(Translation.)

THE difficulties which for a long time have been held to be insuperable, with reference to the passage across the deserts which separate the eastern and western parts of Africa, have just now been a second time overcome by some Moors, who, leaving the coast of Zanzibar to trade in the interior, found themselves, after some months' journey, near the western part of Cazembe, and, in the expectation of a favourable commerce, still advanced, until, having no more goods to trade with, they directed their course to Catambe, where they were informed they would be able to get some in exchange for gold and ivory, which they still possessed. At Catambe they fell in with a merchant at Benguella, and, advised by him to accompany him, they arrived together at that city after a journey of some months, without having to give any information unfavourable to commerce, but the contrary.

They journeyed through Balamoio, Terras de Giroasa de Cuto, Segoxa, Coyo, Tongana, Morungo, Cazembe, Catanga, Cahava, Maeaeoma, Cobito, Bauda, Quanza, Billé, and Benguella. Some of these countries are thickly populated, and they have abundance of provisions and of ivory. Between Cahava and Cavica runs the River Leambeje, which one may suppose to be the Zambeze, which disembogues at Quillimane.

Returning for this coast, they diverged from their former route, and the principal countries and people of which they give notice are the following:—Chamopa, Mastangona, Caminbe, Macungo, Passitubalumbe, Pachahora, Caiomba, Panumba, Utambuca, Bamba-Culmia, Nhaca-pumunabambi, Nhaca-pacafumera, Jana-panudicula, Jana-panmugambo. In all these there is abundance of food, good water, and plenty of cattle. They crossed some rivers, the principal one being the Wamcargue, which is more than 900 fathoms broad and of great depth, and to cross over which they had to make a raft.

They left Benguella on the 7th of June, 1853, and arrived in this city the 12th of November, 1854.

BRAZIL STATION.

No. 109.

*Rear-Admiral Johnstone to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received
February 13.)*

(Extract.)

"Indefatigable," Rio de Janeiro, January 14, 1856.

THE rumours more or less circumstantial that come from all quarters, north and south, of contemplated landings, appear to have stimulated the Imperial Government to increased exertions to frustrate any attempts that may be made: from the northward Commander Boys, of the "Express," reports that owing to the presence of so many cruizers he considers "the coast between this (Pernambuco) and Maceio to be well protected against a landing of slaves," and very recently the public papers of this city alluded to an inspection having been made of their cruizers to the southward, which resulted in the officer charged therewith expressing himself satisfied with their vigilance. The accompanying translation of an article which appeared a few days since in one of the leading papers of this city, the "*Jornal do Commercio*," shows that the anxiety to repress the Trade is not confined to the Government.

In connection with this subject, I forward a copy of Lieutenant Harvey's report relative to the "*Trident's*" recent visit to the Island of Trinidad, mentioned in my letter of the 15th November last, and which, I think, quite puts an end to any apprehensions that might have been entertained of that island being made a depôt for slaves, or rendezvous for slavers to touch at for orders. On her return here, having learned from Mr. Jerningham that an United States' schooner, the "*Maria*" (which there are grounds for believing to be the "*Mary E. Smith*," referred to in their Lordships' letter to me of the 6th October last, and which it is expected will now fly French colours) was about to attempt a landing at Caravalhas, near the Abrolhos, I dispatched Lieutenant Harvey there forthwith, with orders formed to meet the peculiar circumstances of the case.

I have only to add that the result of my recent visit to the northern ports, the reports from time to time received from the cruizers under my command, and my own knowledge of the views entertained by the present Government, and, I believe, by a vast proportion of the more intelligent Brazilians, satisfy me that, even if some successful landings be effected, there are no grounds for apprehending that the Trade can be revived to any great extent. At the same time, now that our vast and unceasing efforts to suppress it effectually are being crowned with comparative success, I think it would be very inexpedient to afford the slightest encouragement to its revival by any relaxation on our part, even although the exigencies of the present war oblige us, in a great degree, to concentrate our efforts in another direction.

P.S.—I have learnt from the senior officer in the River Plate that, up to the 1st instant, nothing had been learned either by himself or by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General, Mr. Thornton, respecting

the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*" above referred to. Commander Boyle's words are, "Upon inquiry I have not been able to learn that any vessel answering to the description of the '*Mary E. Smith*' has arrived here; nor has Mr. Thornton the slightest ground for believing that such a vessel has called at this port under the circumstances detailed, or for any such purpose as was represented by the master, viz., for the conveyance of mails from Monte Video to some other port."

Inclosure 1 in No. 109.

Extract from the "Jornal do Commercio" of January 9, 1856.

(Translation.)

IT was known some days ago that the Government had received information that a landing of slaves would be attempted to the south of this port, and it has said that having sent to make the most minute inquiry, it came to the conclusion that the information was without foundation.

We do not know whether this is the conclusion come to by the Government, nor indeed whether there really has existed recently a project to land slaves in any part of this province, or whether it has been rendered abortive by the many accidents to which a sea voyage is liable, and on which many complicated combinations depend.

What, however, appears evident to us is, that we should not conclude that these isolated attempts of one or two audacious slave-dealers are at an end, because the denounced vessel has not been captured, because of the incessant vigilance of the Government, or even because of the rigour with which all are treated who fall under the suspicion of being engaged in the Trade. We have just received information that confirms us in this opinion. If it came from a suspected source, or even from a person who did not merit our entire confidence, we should not attach importance to it. It reveals so much audacity, such a great contempt for the laws of the country and for the action of the authorities, that we hold, as at least improbable, the conception of such a project. The information is, however, furnished by so prudent a person that we should be wanting in our duty if we did not bring it to the knowledge of the Government, to enable it to investigate the facts to learn the truth.

We are informed that during the early part of last year there was an individual at Ubatuba who endeavoured to seduce several planters of the place, and of the Upper Serra, to enter into a slaving speculation.

This individual declared that there was organized at New York a large Association, with ramifications in Brazil, the West Indies, and the coast of Africa; that this Association had sent to establish schools for the Portuguese language on some points of the coast of Africa, where the Trade is still carried on; that after the negroes are bought they frequent these schools, and that when they know our idiom, as the negroes do who have been a year in the country, they would be embarked for Brazil, clothed in cotton of Minas, as our slaves are. This individual added that in spite of all the vigilance of the Imperial Government, the serra between St. Sebastian and Ubatuba was prepared and undermined at one end, to afford an easy and secret transit to the negroes; that the disembarkation could be conducted by expert and experienced persons, who, nine times in ten, would be able to elude the vigilance of our cruisers; that if it should happen, after effecting the landing, that any force on shore tried to take them, they would be hidden in a vast subterranean place which exists in the estate of Lagoinha, and which is only known to the person to whom it was revealed by the late proprietor; and finally, in case of the estates on the Upper Serra being examined by the authorities, no one would be able to distinguish the newly-received from the old Africans. Such was the state of things when, in August last, many of the individuals who were asked to join in this criminal speculation received information by circulars that, in the approaching December, the first of the vessels intended for the Traffic would arrive at Lagoinha.

However unlikely this story may appear, it cannot be denied that though the success of such a bold adventure is improbable, we repeat that we have this information from a trustworthy person.

Were the Government to send and see if the serra indicated is undermined, if in the estate of Lagoinha there exists such a subterranean hiding-place (our informant states its position), and were to order some of the persons of Ubatuba who were asked to join the speculation to be examined, they might acquire knowledge which would approach the truth.

We have done our duty.

Inclosure 2 in No. 109.

Lieutenant Harvey to Rear-Admiral Johnstone.

Sir,

"Trident," Rio de Janeiro, December 26, 1855.

I HAVE to report that, in pursuance of instructions received from Commander Thurburn, of Her Majesty's ship "*Madagascar*," I put to sea in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Trident*," under my command, from Rio de Janeiro, on the morning of the 25th November, and made the best of my way, under sail only, to the Island of Trinidad, and on the morning of the 14th December, being about twelve miles off the island, having light adverse airs of wind, and smooth water being highly favourable for an examination of the place, I proceeded under steam close round, so as to obtain a view of every part.

2. On the east side I observed the wreck of a vessel, and sent a boat to examine it, but there being a heavy surf on the beach, and the vessel driven inside a reef of rocks which extended along the small sandy bay where she was lying, the boat returned without having been able to approach the vessel or effect a landing, but from her appearance, which I examined minutely, she had evidently been there some considerable time, many casks, spars, beams, and other parts of wreck about her, as well as her bow, bowsprit, and jib-boom (the only parts of the vessel visible), all being much bleached by exposure.

3. The vessel was apparently about 200 tons, does not appear to have been coppered, has a black fiddle-head, bowsprit and jib-boom painted white and nearly erect, without any rigging, port chain-cable broken about two fathoms outside the hawser, and starboard one in board. There were no vestiges of boats, cordage, or of any tents or huts; and from the appearance of the vessel, and the numerous casks strewed around, which are of a peculiar shape, perfectly cylindrical, I conceive she had been an American whaler.

4. I anchored at 5.30 P.M. on the south side, and sent a boat to examine a bay, apparently the only practicable place for landing or building.

The officer in charge (Mr. W. J. Piddell, Second Master) stated that they landed with some difficulty by wading through the surf; that he could not perceive the slightest sign of any persons having been there lately; but there were some fragments of boats' wreck on the beach, where they had evidently been a very long time.

5. Having fully observed every part of the island whilst steaming round, and convinced myself that no persons were there, and not a hut of any description on the island, I weighed again at 8.50 P.M., to return to this port for further orders.

6. I beg to add that, from the rugged and barren appearance of the island, and some dried-up water-courses which I observed on the eastern side, I believe the runs of water described in the "Ethiopic Directions" are only temporary, and that there must be a great scarcity of water at times; which, together with the difficulty and risk of landing, even in the most favourable weather, I consider renders it uninhabitable. The only stream of water I saw was on the south-west side, which was small, and oozed down the rocks some distance up the mountain, and which appeared inaccessible from the shore; and from the nature of the coast under it, and in its neighbourhood, being composed of sharp steep rocks, with a surge even in the perfectly smooth water which we had, watering there must be almost impracticable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. B. HARVEY.

No. 110.

Rear-Admiral Johnstone to the Secretary to the Admiralty.—(Received March 13.)

Sir, "Indefatigable," Rio de Janeiro, February 9, 1856.

ADVERTING to my despatch of the 14th ultimo, I have now the satisfaction of announcing to their Lordships the capture, by a Brazilian schooner of war, the "Olinda," of the United States' schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," with 387 slaves on board, under the circumstances detailed in the accompanying copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, covering a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia containing the particulars of the affair.

With reference to the concluding paragraph of Mr. Consul Morgan's letter, I beg to state that, as a general rule, I prefer the cruizer running along portions of the coast to remaining at particular points, for the sake of health and discipline, and in this very case the "Trident" was within 60 miles of the place of capture, which was upwards of 300 miles to the southward of Bahia, and for some time past no vessel was sent to remain at Bahia on account of the yellow fever raging there.

As soon as I received their Lordships' letter of the 6th October last, and its inclosures, relative to the vessel in question, the "*Mary E. Smith*," I forwarded copies to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at this Court with a view to the particulars being immediately communicated to the Imperial Government. I also took care to furnish the same to Her Majesty's Consuls at Bahia and Pernambuco, as well as to the several cruizers under my command: it is, therefore, fair to assume that this capture has been in some degree attributable to the measures taken to put the coast on the alert.

I inclose a copy of Lieutenant Harvey's proceedings during the "Trident's" recent visit to Caravalhas and the neighbouring ports, together with copies of two memoranda of information obtained relative to an abandoned brig supposed to have been engaged in slaving, and to an American vessel which was wrecked and abandoned, and being afterwards

sold was got off, and is now said to be running. I have likewise communicated copies to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and to Her Majesty's Consul respectively, so that any necessary steps may be taken thereon, especially in regard to the alleged double insurance of the United States' vessel.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. HOPE JOHNSTONE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 110.

Mr. Jerningham to Rear-Admiral Johnstone.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, February 4, 1856.

I BEG to have the honour to forward to you a copy of a communication received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, by which you will see that the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," respecting which suspicions of slave-trading have been entertained, has actually been seized by the Brazilian schooner "*Olinda*," with 387 slaves on board, near St. Matthew's, off the Province of Espirito Santo. However, before the "*Olinda*" arrived with her prize at Bahia, 67 of these unfortunate individuals appear to have died.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. S. JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 110.

Consul Morgan to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Bahia, January 30, 1856.

I HAVE great pleasure in acquainting you that the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," which was the subject of the despatch, addressed to me by Admiral Johnstone on the 19th of December last, was captured off St. Matthew's (on the frontier of Espirito Santo and this province), some ten days ago, with 387 slaves on board, and arrived in this port last night with 320; 67 having died since her capture, from want and disease. This schooner was found to have all her American papers in order, and was commanded by an American, with a mixed crew of Americans and Portuguese. When captured, there were a few Portuguese passengers on board—no doubt her owners.

She attempted to negotiate her cargo of human flesh at St. Matthew's, having entered that port feigning distress and want of provisions. The authorities, who had in their possession her description, tried to parley and delay her departure until a sufficient force could be obtained to capture her in port; but one of the passengers, finding they were suspected, pulled off to the schooner, and in half-an-hour she was again under way, when she encountered the Imperial schooner "*Olinda*," and was captured with the American ensign flying.

Great credit is due to the authorities of this province, as their small cruisers "*Oliinda*," "*Thereza*," and "*Canopo*," have been constantly on the look-out for her.

I shall vigilantly watch the proceedings that must take place now, for the proper punishment of these men-stealers, and shall not fail to acquaint you with their results.

It is also said that this schooner belongs to the Association instituted some time ago at Rio de Janeiro, for slave-trading purposes, and that she is the first that has brought a cargo of slaves.

At the same time I beg to add that, with the exception of the presence of the "*Indefatigable*," and "*Rifleman*" lately in this port, we have had no regular British cruiser in these waters for three months past.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 3 in No. 110.

Lieutenant Harvey to Rear-Admiral Johnstone.

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 5, 1856.

I VISITED the chief authorities to endeavour to procure information as to the state of the Slave Trade at these places, and the expected arrival of the vessel named in my orders, of which they had not been apprised by the Brazilian Government. The latest information they had received was in October last, respecting the master and crew of a vessel that had been seized with slaves near Pernambuco, whom they had orders to arrest, and to observe vigilance in preventing a debarkation of negroes in their several districts; and from all the information I could collect respecting the Traffic in Blacks at the places visited, there are no grounds for believing any vessel is expected at any of them, or that any slaves have been landed in their vicinity for a considerable time, although the rivers at Villa Viçosa, Caravelhas, and Alcobaça, afford every facility for carrying on the Traffic, and which the authorities acknowledged.

Inclosure 4 in No. 110.

Memoranda of information received relative to a brig, name and nation unknown, fitted for slaves, stated to have been found abandoned near Rio Barra Secca, about fourteen months since.

ABOUT fourteen months since a brig, name and nation unknown, was found on shore, with all sail set, abandoned, and equipped for the Slave Trade, near Barra Secca, between San Matheo and Rio Doce. The master and crew of the said vessel arrived at Caravelhas with their clothes, &c., stating that they had been wrecked on the neighbouring coast. After their departure from Caravelhas, a person came there from San Matheo, who stated that a brig had been wrecked about seven leagues south of that village, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, but abandoned.

The launch of the brig, it is said, was sold by the master at the Bar of Caravelhas, and was pointed out to the informer as having belonged to the vessel.

The informer also states that the above was communicated to him by persons who in addition stated that the master was a Spaniard and the crew Portuguese, and that a person at San Matheo had in his possession some fire-arms which were found on board the brig, as she was plundered of everything by the inhabitants of San Matheo and Rio Doce, with not a vestige of her now remaining.

(Signed)

R. B. HARVEY, *Lieutenant and Commander.*

"Trident," January 26, 1856.

Inclosure 5 in No. 110.

Memoranda of information received relative to an American vessel on the Paredes, July 6, 1855.

A VESSEL called the "Fanny Hall," or a similar name, of Boston or Baltimore, United States, about 920 tons, commanded by Freeman Banks, with a crew of twelve men, including one Portuguese, from Baltimore or Boston, bound to Calcutta, struck on the Northern Paredes, on the 6th July last, about 4 A.M.; having seen, at noon on the previous day (as stated by the crew), Mount Pascal, a remarkable mountain to the northward, and which must have determined the position of the vessel. The master and crew abandoned her immediately, and proceeded to Caravelhas in the boats, without making any effort to get her off. Arrived at Caravelhas, the master sold the vessel as she then was, on the rocks, to José Gomes Pacheco, for Joaquim Morera Dios, for 800 milreis. He also sold the chronometer for 80 milreis, and two small boats for 50 milreis each. The parties who purchased the vessel employed some fishermen and the pilot Pio Francisco da Costa (30 in all) who got her off (by laying out anchor, and throwing some ballast overboard), took her into Caravelhas on the 24th July, drawing 16½ palmas water. She remained there until the 22nd November, refitting, made no water, and was apparently uninjured. She then sailed for Rio de Janeiro, laden with wood, farinha, and cocoa-nuts, and is now called the "Recife."

The reason assigned by the master to the chief authority at Caravelhas for abandoning his vessel, was that he thought he would not be able to get her off. It is supposed that he himself was part owner. The Delegado believed the papers were all regular, but there was no one at Caravelhas who could read English. The master, mate, and part of the crew, left for Bahia almost immediately after selling the vessel and other things that belonged to her. There were two seamen left at Caravelhas, and the Portuguese named Antonio Viara Guimarez (now mate of the Brazilian hiate "Tentador," of the Province of Bahia, Villa Caravelhas).

The Delegado states it his belief, from the knowledge possessed by the master as to the position of the vessel the day previous to her getting on shore, and the fine weather prevailing at the time, added to the fact that she was abandoned immediately she struck, with all sail set, the master taking everything portable with him, and without making any attempt to get her afloat, that she must have been run on shore intentionally, being insured both in England and America.

The pilot surmised that she must have gone on shore with her head to the south-west, over the Northern Parcel dos Paredes, and struck on the reefs on the south side, about fifteen miles from the land, and east-north-east from Caravelhas, and she was got off the reefs to the north-east and brought round by him between the Paredes and Alcobaca, the inshore channel, to Caravelhas.

(Signed)

R. B. HARVEY, *Lieutenant and Commander.*

"Trident," January 26, 1856.

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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

BRITISH MINISTERS AND AGENTS

IN

FOREIGN COUNTRIES,

AND WITH

FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From April 1, 1855, to March 31, 1856.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1856.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Benin.*

No. 1.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 3rd of February last,* respecting the arrival at Lagos of M. Lamaignère and Senhor Jambo, and reporting the measures adopted by you to induce King Docemo to fulfil his treaty engagements by expelling these and other notorious slave-dealers from his dominions, I have to inform you that I approve of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 2.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of February last,† giving an account of the conspiracy which had been organized at Lagos, in order to bring about the expulsion from thence of the British and other residents unfavourable to the Slave Trade, and stating that the conspirators had even formed a plot to effect your assassination. Your despatch also describes the measures adopted for frustrating these plots; and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your proceedings as reported in that despatch.

You will inform King Docemo that Her Majesty's Government have heard of this conspiracy with deep displeasure, and also that they are astonished at his want of foresight, as he must be aware that if the conspiracy had succeeded, or if the British Consul had been assassinated, the most signal punishment would have been inflicted upon all persons concerned in such atrocious acts.

Her Majesty's Government are, however, glad to hear that some of the offenders have been punished; and Her Majesty's Government hope that this

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 45.

† Ibid., No. 46.

may be considered as a proof that the King is alive to the danger he has incurred, and that his conduct in future will be more cautious, as well as more friendly to Her Majesty's Consul and the British residents, who, as the King well knows, have the true interest of himself and his people at heart.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 3.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 15th of February last,* reporting the measures which you had taken to dissuade the King of Dahomey from attacking Abbeokuta, I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 4.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copy of a letter which I have received from the Chevalier de Macedo, the Brazilian Minister at this Court, complaining of the expulsion of Pedro Martins Jambo from Lagos, and of the answer which I have returned thereto.†

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 5.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, June 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that no information has reached me of an embarkation of slaves having taken place from the Bight of Benin, since that made on board the condemned French brig "*Cæsar*," last year, in the neighbourhood of Whydah.

The result of this shipment, as well as of the others made by the slave-traders of the Bight of Benin during last year, from what I can learn, has been most disastrous to them; all the vessels, except the "*Grey Eagle*," under American colours, having, with their cargoes, been seized by the authorities in Cuba, and although the "*Grey Eagle*," it is said, succeeded in landing her cargo, she was seized shortly afterwards.

No. 6.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 18.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, June 2, 1855.

I AM happy in being able to report to your Lordship that perfect tranquillity reigns at this place, with peace, security, and free navigation along the whole extent of the lagoons.

The palm-oil trade is on the increase, and there are now at anchor in the roadstead twelve merchant-vessels under various colours (five being English), and of various tonnages, from 900 to 150.

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 47.

† Nos. 85 and 86.

Kosoko and his Cabooceers have entered into this trade with spirit, and they have sold and embarked from Palma, since that port was open to them, upwards of 1,000 tons of palm oil.

The average value of palm oil in England is, by late advices, 40*l.* and upwards the ton. The local value is at least 20*l.* the ton, of which one-fourth goes to the trader as profit, and the remaining three-fourths to the manufacturers, the industrious natives. The raw material being procured from the trees growing indigenous in immense numbers, the whole of that three-fourths may be considered as profit.

The total quantity of palm oil expected to be shipped from the Bight of Benin this year, will reach about 12,000 tons. A commerce of such value, in the profits of which the bulk of the natives, bond or free, participate, must, in time, produce a beneficial result, and, it may be fairly hoped, with the present depressed state of the Slave Trade, lead to a state of permanent peace and security in this part of the country.

No. 7.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 28.*)

(Extract.)

Lagos, July 21, 1855.

FROM information I have obtained, it appears the annual value of the palm-oil trade of the Bonny approaches nearly a million sterling per annum, and that the capital embarked in shipping and merchandise in prosecuting this trade, floating in the Bonny river alone, amounts to about half a million sterling.

No. 8.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received September 19.*)

My Lord,

Lagos, August 2, 1855.

SHORTLY after assuming my duties as Her Majesty's Consul at this place, I was called upon to hear the complaints of various individuals, and to obtain them redress against the wrongs of which they complained.

Most of these complaints being cases of kidnapping and unjustly selling into slavery persons of free condition, and of seizing for debts not due by the parties seized, but by others belonging to the same town or country, I did not hesitate to use my utmost endeavours to obtain redress for the wrongs complained of, and, in many cases, the punishment of the aggressors.

The people finding that they could have access to me at all hours, from sunrise to sunset, my whole time was soon occupied in listening to complaints of wrong and oppression, and in obtaining justice for the injured complainants.

There having been since I arrived at my post a considerable immigration from Sierra Leone of the better class of Africans, men who had been residing for years in Freetown, and of that class who serve on juries in the law courts of Sierra Leone, civil and criminal, and who have become considerably advanced in civilization, and have attained correct notions of right and wrong, and these persons also bringing their matters of dispute to me for my mediation and interposition, I at length, finding my time too much occupied with these matters, suggested to them the propriety of forming amongst themselves a sort of court or tribunal, to hear and determine disputes and differences and matters of debt, to hold regular meetings, and to draw up a code of regulations for their guidance.

My suggestion after a time was followed up, and I was waited upon by several of the persons named as the Committee, with a copy of the regulations they had drawn up, and requested by them to make such alterations or additions as I thought necessary. I complied with their wishes, and gave my sanction to the regulations Nos. 1 to 12, by which they were to guide their proceedings.

A copy of these regulations I do myself the honour to transmit, trusting

that your Lordship will view favourably this attempt to supersede the barbarous and unjust measures usually employed by the community at Lagos to obtain, at best, but a wild justice, by the forms, customs, and equitable laws of a civilized people, and that I shall receive your Lordship's approval of having given my sanction to the Sierra Leone emigrants' code of regulations.

The sittings of the Committee are held weekly, on Saturdays, and the decisions given by them have hitherto been received with satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Regulations.

AT the meeting held this day, May 19th, 1855,

Present :

Messrs. William Savage, James Gooding, Harry Pratt, J. M. Turner, J. C. Davis, J. T. Nottidge, Annie Euba, J. R. Thomas, John Thomas, John Davis, Thomas C. Cole, Thomas Davis, Thomas Gabbiden, Pedro, S. B. Williams, Samuel Williams, William Ray, were appointed a Committee.

Whereas it has pleased the Almighty God in raising good men in England in redeeming the many thousands of the Yoruba nation in the British colony called Sierra Leone, and enlightened them by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and whereas it pleased the Almighty God since the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, granted to all the nations above referred to return to their native country to enjoy their own country and kindred, the Committee of liberated Africans feel themselves indebted greatly to God for his providence in procuring such means as already vouchsafed unto them, also unto Her Majesty the Queen, in raising such men in her kingdom, whose hearts are melting as it were every day for Africans, especially Yoruba in particular. The Committee also is greatly indebted to Her Majesty the Queen in sending her officers among us, especially Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, a man who is worthy of his office and rank, also under His Majesty King Docemo, under whose government we are safe. We bless heaven and take courage and hope the time may soon come when our fathers will be visited with the same spirit which was in true Briton. The Committee being sensible of the good examples and rules with which they are taught in the colony of Sierra Leone, determine to abide with the Christian laws equally as that of Sierra Leone. The above Committee unanimously appointed Mr. William Savage as President, and Mr. James Gooding as Vice-President, whose duty it will be, aided by any number not less than three of the above Committee, to hear and determine all disputes and differences arising among the emigrants from Sierra Leone, and those from the Brazil and Cuba. They are also, with the aid of some members of the Committee, not less than three, to arrange amicably, if possible, all disputes arising between any of the emigrants and the people of Lagos; in the event of their decision not giving satisfaction to the inhabitants of Lagos, the matter in dispute to be referred to the King for his final decision; but in all disputes among the emigrants themselves, in the event of the decision of the President, Vice-President, and Committee not giving satisfaction, the matter is to be referred to the British Consul for his final decision.

The following regulations have been unanimously agreed upon by the Committee:—

1. Any resident emigrant who shall receive and give lodging to a newly arrived immigrant shall, within four days after his arrival, present such newly arrived emigrant to Mr. W. Savage, the President, who will give him advice and assist him to procure a permanent location.

2. No emigrant shall be allowed to seize the person of any inhabitant of Lagos or other country person for debt, without first obtaining the sanction of the King; but for any crime committed by any person of Lagos or the surrounding countries, he or they may be at once seized and taken before the King to be punished.

3. Any matters of debt arising between the emigrants themselves shall be heard and determined by the President, Vice-President, and at least three members of the Committee; and in the event of its being necessary to summon any debtor before the Committee, the following scale of fees shall be demanded and paid for such summons, viz.: in any matter of debt from 1 head to 5 heads of cowries, 12 strings shall be paid for the summons; above 5 heads, and not exceeding 10 heads, 25 strings to be paid for the summons; above 10 heads, 1 head of cowries to be paid for the summons.

4. Any matter of debt between the emigrants and the country people, the same may be referred to the Committee for its decision, provided the country party agree to the same; otherwise the Committee will take the matter before the King for his decision. When any country person has agreed that his differences with the emigrants shall be decided by the Committee, and he does not abide by their decision, the King's interference must be sought to compel him to abide by the same; and, if necessary, to sell the property of the debtor for the payment of his debts. And in the event of such property not being able to pay the debt due by the debtor, and it can be proved that he has fraudulently or clandestinely removed or made away with his property, the King must be called upon to punish such person by imprisonment in the common jail.

5. All disputes arising among the emigrants themselves, from assault committed or insult given, the one to the other, shall be heard and determined by the President or Vice-President and the Committee, of whom at least three members must be present. Any party committing an assault, refusing to appear before the Committee, must be summoned; and in the event of he or she being proved to be in the wrong, must pay the sum of 25 strings for the summons, and the fine imposed by the Committee. Refusing to pay the same, the Committee, after the lapse of six days, shall seize and sell so much property of the party in the wrong as will pay for the summons and the fine. If the party in the wrong has no property, and he or she does not satisfy the party injured, the Committee can imprison him or her for any time not exceeding one month.

6. The Brazilian and Cuban emigrants are to be invited to join in these regulations, and some of the most respectable of them to become members of the Committee.

7. The President or, in the event of his absence or sickness, the Vice-President, with at least three of the Committee, are to hold a sitting weekly, on any convenient day that may be agreed upon, of which due notice must be given; and a general meeting of the Committee must be held every three months, to discuss matters affecting the interest of the emigrants in particular, and of the community of Lagos in general, and if necessary to make additional rules and regulations for their guidance and welfare.

8. It being necessary, for the general security of the emigrants and their property, to keep up a night-patrol, the Committee will make arrangements for carrying this measure into effect; and those persons whom the Committee nominate to perform this duty must either comply with the regulations of the Committee on this point or find a substitute. In the event of refusal to do either, the Committee can either impose a fine on such person, or hire a substitute for him, making him pay for the same. In case of refusal to pay either the fine, or for the substitute, the Committee will distrain and sell so much of the refusing party's property as shall pay either the fine or the expense for the substitute.

9. No emigrant is allowed to entice away the servants or labourers of another. The Committee are empowered to fine any person so offending, and, if necessary, to distrain on the offender's property for the payment of such fine.

10. No emigrant is on any account to join any cabal against the King, nor to attend any meetings, secret or open, which tend to disturb the peace of Lagos. If any emigrant is found guilty by the Committee of inciting or joining others to disturb the peace of (Lagos) the country, he shall be ordered either to return to Sierra Leone, or on refusal shall be transported with his family and property to Fernando Po.

11. In the event of the death of any emigrant having neither wife, children, nor any personal representatives, the President shall appoint a Committee of three persons to realise such deceased emigrant's property; and after payment of his just debts and funeral expenses, the balance shall remain two years in the

hands of the President and Vice-President, during which time the Committee must make every effort to discover if the deceased emigrant has any relatives in the interior; and if any should be discovered, and proved to the satisfaction of the President and Vice-President to be relatives of the deceased, such balance shall be paid to them.

12. All fines and penalties, and the remaining property of deceased emigrants having no personal representatives, shall be held by the President and Vice-President for the expense of erecting a suitable House of Detention, wherein to lodge such persons as may be committed for default or otherwise by the President and the Committee.

No. 9.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 13.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, August 28, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the capture by Her Majesty's brigantine "Dolphin," Lieutenant-Commander Webber, and Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," Lieutenant-Commander Roe, in the roadstead of Accra, of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," on the ground, as I am informed, of having an extraordinary number of empty casks on board, for which there was no certificate forthcoming that bond had been duly given for the legal use of those casks.

The "*Fernando Po*" was from Barcelona, and was consigned to a noted slave-dealer, named Domingo Mustich, who has establishments at Aghwey and Popoe, and who is expected to follow the "*Fernando Po*" in a brig from Barcelona. The barque has been sent to Sierra Leone for adjudication, and a strict look-out will no doubt be kept for the brig, as well as a schooner, also reported to be expected from Barcelona, all similarly consigned.

This Domingo Mustich was one of the principal shippers of slaves by the "*Grey Eagle*," the condemned French brig "*César*," and other vessels that embarked slaves from the ports in the neighbourhood of Whydah about fifteen months since. On information being brought to the coast of the ill success of these expeditions, Domingo Mustich went to Cuba to look after his own interest and the interests of the other shippers; from Cuba he appears to have gone to Barcelona, as letters to his address at this place passed through this Consulate, to go by mail, about four months since.

I learn from a private source that the slave-dealers in Whydah are in a great state of despondency on account of the capture of the "*Fernando Po*," for they still hope that they can get their slaves landed in Cuba.

No. 10.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 13.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, August 30, 1855.

THE Chiefs of Abbeokuta have stopped all trading intercourse with Lagos for now nearly five months, to the great loss and inconvenience of the merchants and traders.

It was the custom heretofore of the Egba traders to visit Lagos twice a month, but in consequence of their formerly being attacked by Kosoko's war-canoes, when crossing the lagoon, they came monthly in a body for mutual protection. These attacks have, however, long since ceased, and they have met with no interruption whatever since I made my first visit to Epé, accompanied by Lieutenant Bedingfeld, on which occasion Kosoko and his Cabooceers faithfully promised to cease troubling any canoes visiting Lagos; this promise they have faithfully kept. The Egba market has, nevertheless, since been held monthly only. The quantity of palm oil brought by them to Lagos for sale averaged about 400 puncheons each market. The failure of this supply has caused loss and inconvenience to the merchants, by the detention of their vessels at this season in particular, when, from the excessive and incessant rains, the Jaboos have not

been able to carry their palm oil to the markets, and have besides had to attend to their farms, the getting in their first crop of corn, and preparing for the second.

The Sierra Leone traders in particular have been inconvenienced by the Egbas suddenly and unexpectedly ceasing to bring their productions to the Lagos market, as they imprudently, as they now find out, gave considerable quantities of merchandise on credit to the Egba traders.

Formerly, in consequence of the unsettled state of the country, Lagos was almost entirely dependent on the Abbeokutan Egbas for provisions, in the shape of yams, corn, &c.: but in consequence of the present state of peace and security, the markets of the Jaboo country, and those of Porto Novo, Badagry, and all the smaller towns, are open, and no inconvenience whatever has been experienced by the population of Lagos from a want of provisions; in fact, war and its attendant evils, kidnapping and robbery, having ceased, the Lagos people, and the Sierra Leone and Brazilian emigrants, have made for themselves, on the main land, large plantations of corn and yams.

Your Lordship will perceive by the correspondence which I do myself the honour to transmit, that the plea of the Egba Chiefs for preventing their traders visiting Lagos as formerly, is, that they were cheated by the Lagos traders; and that they were not sufficiently remunerated for their palm oil, and, consequently, found it a losing trade.

This plea I found in part well founded, for when the measures came to be regulated and marked, some were found to contain 11, 12, and, even 13 gallons.

I have however done all I felt myself justified in doing to remedy this grievance; for me to have acceded to the Alake's request to regulate the price of the palm oil, or, in other words, dictate to the traders what price they should pay for it, was out of the question.

I must here inform your Lordship that the Egba traders have not hitherto been allowed to trade direct with the European merchants and importers, but have been compelled to trade with the traders of Lagos, and the Sierra Leone and Brazilian emigrants, or else to employ them as brokers; also that the trade with the Egbas yields to the merchants and traders far less profit than the trade with the Jaboos, Porto Novians, &c., on account of the Egbas insisting on being paid for their oil in great part with the cowrie shell, which is the currency of the country, instead of taking manufactured goods in payment: the consequence of this is, these shells have advanced in value in England during the last two years, from 13*l.* per ton, to 40*l.* to 50*l.* per ton.

Recent events which have lately come to my knowledge make me very doubtful whether the real cause has been assigned by the Alake of Abbeokuta for the traders of that town ceasing to visit Lagos.

Information reached me as far back as six months since, that the Egbas had recommenced their predatory warfare excursions against their weaker neighbours, and my informant told me, that during his stay at Abbeokuta, he saw a party of Egbas return from one of these expeditions with about 250 captives, and several fine horses; and latterly we have heard, with some surprise, that the Egbas had sent two large divisions of their fighting people to attack the towns on the Dahomian frontier, and that one of these divisions had returned to Abbeokuta after losing many people, and some of their leaders, or captains. We have not heard whether the other division has returned, for the Egbas have for a long time past prevented all intercourse by land between their town and Lagos, except by the messengers of the Missionary Societies, who are, no doubt, restricted by the Abbeokuta Chiefs from giving information of their proceedings.

I beg to transmit copy of a letter I received from Mr. McCoskry at Badagry, from which your Lordship will perceive that this hostile movement of the Egbas has greatly alarmed the King of Dahomey, and those residing in his dominions. The captain to whom Mr. McCoskry alludes did not desert his post; it appears he has been sent by the King of Dahomey, and the Chiefs and traders at Whydah, on a message to Kosoko, doubtless for aid.

I beg also to transmit for your Lordship's information, an extract from a letter received by the Rev. T. B. Freeman from the King of Dahomey, written, most probably, after the receipt of the letters from Commodore Adams and

myself; by which it appears he has abandoned (if he really seriously entertained it, which was doubted by many) the intention of attacking Abbeokuta.

It is my painful duty to forward also to your Lordship, in original, two letters which have been placed at my disposal. I had heard, from time to time, that the Egbas made human sacrifices under cover of the night, but this is the first instance of such an atrocity having been committed in open day and by order of the Alake, the supreme Chief; and I learn, from other sources, that to the earnest entreaties and remonstrances of the missionaries, the Chiefs turned a deaf ear.

In the early part of the ensuing dry season I intend visiting Abbeokuta, when I shall not fail to remonstrate with the Chiefs against this shameful breach of their Treaty with Her Majesty's Government, as well as against their hostile aggressions upon their neighbours, and to inform them that by a continuance of such acts they will forfeit the kind feeling entertained towards them by Her Majesty's Government and their numerous and influential friends, who will cease to take any further interest in their welfare if such barbarous deeds continue to be perpetrated.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

The Alake of Abbeokuta to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Aké, Abbeokuta, June 2, 1855.

I SEND you these lines to acquaint you with the requests of my people, the Egbas, who are now trading with the British merchants at Lagos. Since the Treaty was made to abolish the Slave Trade, we were all very glad to take up the lawful trade recommended by the English, and we find it to be the best. But now I am very sorry to find many of my people complaining that this time they are not very well paid for their markets; and many of them have contracted large debts, and have become penniless, and consequently leaving their family, and run away to another country, such as Ibadia, Ilorin, on purpose to join in kidnapping; but these evil practices we would not have here. For this reason I would only beg you to assist my people, as you are the Representative of the Queen, to call the merchants there, and speak to them, so that they might put in a little more to the price now given for the measures of their palm oil, and every other produce they might bring. I am confident that you are not aware how things are going as well as myself. It was till my people cry to me when they see that their trade was coming low. They mean to say that the price given for their oil do not at all pay them; and when they buy the English produce from them, it is given them at an enormous price, and when fetched home, the same never pay them; so instead of gaining a little for their trouble, they lose altogether. So my request is that you will be so kind as to help them for me, as I trust you ready to do anything good for us.

I have stopp'd the trading canoes from coming at present, in order to arrange things properly for them with regards to the buying here, so that the buyers and sellers might all be satisfied. For I am not ignorant of all what the British Government has done for the good of our country; and for which reason we would hold fast in carrying on the lawful trade. Sir, I look to you in all these to help my poor people, who are imploring for your help. I do look upon all the black merchants from Sierra Leone as my own people, and have the same interest for the welfare of both parties in my heart. So I humbly beg of you to help in this case in speaking to all the traders and merchants that they might pay these people better prices for their market, and the people themselves would bring them good measures; and more so to encourage them in bringing such things as the merchants would wish them to bring for them at all times. I shall feel very happy if you will be so kind as to manage this in a short time, so that the people may know how to come.

I hope you are quite well, and enjoying a good health in body. With my regards, I beg, &c.

(Signed)

ALAKE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

*Consul Campbell to the Alake of Abbeokuta.**British Consulate, Lagos, June 13, 1855.*

THE English Consul presents his best respects to the Alake.

The Consul duly received the two letters sent by the messengers.

The letter relative to the complaints of the Egba traders is, that they do not receive the fair value for the palm oil which they bring to Lagos for sale.

The Consul has made every inquiry into the matter, and he believes that the complaints of the Egbas are, to a great extent, well founded; but the Egbas generally do not trade with the merchants, but sell their oil to the Sierra Leone people, Brazilian people, and Lagos people, who then sell it to the merchants.

The Consul thinks the Egba traders ought to have four heads for the measure of ten gallons of oil; and he recommends, when they come down to Lagos again to trade, that they insist on that price; if they cannot get that price from the trader, let them take it to the merchants' yard, who will give them that price for their oil.

From inquiries the Consul has made, he fears that the Egba traders pay too high a price to the people who make the oil in the country, being ignorant what proportion the measure they buy with bears to the large measure they sell by in Lagos.

The Consul also fears that the Egbas are greatly cheated by some of the traders in Lagos, who, instead of having their measures at ten gallons, get them made to contain eleven and twelve gallons.

The Consul, as soon as he gets restored to health, will take steps to put an end to this rogues' trade, and will order from England, by the next packet, iron brands with which to stamp every trader's measure, after having first seen with his own eyes that the measure is just and correct, containing only ten gallons; it will then be in the power of the Egba traders to refuse having their oil measured by any measure which does not bear the Consul's stamp upon it.

The Consul is glad that the Alake has brought the complaints of the Egba traders to his notice; because it gives him great pleasure to promote their peaceful commerce, and to prevent them from being wronged and cheated.

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

The Alake of Abbeokuta to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Alé, July 18, 1855.

IN consequence of the trade in palm oil, which has been in confusion a few months ago, I seize the present opportunity to address you these few lines, with the full hope they may meet you in good health. But before speaking about the trade in palm oil, I beg to be allowed to treat on this main subject, which is my chiefest desire.

It had been long experienced by me the great love Her Majesty the Queen of England had shown towards my country people, who had been taken to Sierra Leone, and caused to return to their father-land without paying any price of redemption; and therefore it will ever be my chiefest delight to act on the part of the English; and I do hope it shall never be found in me, or in any of my people, opposition towards them.

It will be seen that I place my entire reliance on Her Majesty's Consul, to introduce peace throughout my country at large, also every kind of trade, and to open a free passage for all merchants to be coming with articles for sale every now and then, and so that my time and yours will ever be commemorated. On the other hand, I must not forget to mention the palm-oil affair. I was informed recently of the favour Her Majesty's Consul had shown to the Egba traders, in reducing all the measures, for which I must thank him exceedingly. But, after all, I must consult your advice as to what height of price the sale of every measure should have its standard, be it five heads and ten strings of cowries, or five heads and twenty-five strings. I must also mention to you the cheat that is

carrying on by the native merchants, who are tearing off a part of a ball of cloth, which we find out afterwards by measuring it at home. Formerly we got only whole pieces from the European merchants, and by this act my people are pushed into debts. I mention this that you may have the full knowledge of the tricks carrying on there. I beg also to inquire why the Egba traders have no access to the European merchants? This might be taken into consideration. But of all I know that you shall do everything well that will be good for my country and people. And it will give me joy if returning me the answer for the price of a measure of ten gallons of palm oil by my messenger.

I wish Her Majesty's Consul to favour me by always acquainting me previously of the offence of any Egba, before punishment is inflicted on him or her, in which I will join him. Wishing you a good health, I am, &c.

(Signed) ALAKE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 10.

Consul Campbell to the Alake of Abbeokuta.

British Consulate, Lagos, July 23, 1855.

THE English Consul sends his best respects to the Alake.

The Consul has received the Alake's last letter by his messengers.

It would not be proper for the Consul to fix a price for the measure of palm oil, because the price of anything must be ruled by the demand for it, and what the traders will give for it. Now, as there are more than 100 traders in Lagos, and every one wanting oil, the Egba traders are sure to get the full price for any oil they bring for sale.

Although the Consul cannot put a price on the palm oil, he can and will use his influence with King Docemo to punish by fine any person found cheating the Egba traders, whether in the measure of the oil, or the cutting the pieces of cloth, or any of the cunning ways resorted to cheat, and the fine, twenty heads, shall go to the Egba trader who has been cheated.

The Consul knows no reason why the Egba traders should not trade direct with the merchants, or any one they please, and the Consul will use all his influence to get the trade free and open; and he wishes the Alake to tell the traders to call on the Consul before they trade anywhere; and, whenever they have reason to think they have been cheated, let them call on the Consul to investigate their complaint.

The Consul will gladly do all in his power to protect the interests of the Egba traders at Lagos, and he hopes the Alake will not listen to the proposal of the Lagos people to hold their market at Abouey, but that they will bring their oil to Lagos, and get the highest price they can for it from the numerous traders anxious to buy it.

The Consul hopes the Alake and all his family are well.

Inclosure 5 in No. 10.

Mr. McCoskry to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Badagry, August 19, 1855.

I BELIEVE I have at last got at the bottom of the non-appearance of the Egbas.

I learn from a messenger going from Whydah to Epé, that the whole kingdom of Dahomey is in a state of panic, having just discovered that the Egbas have had on foot an extensive conspiracy amongst the Anagoos and other tribes of analogous origin, slaves to the Portuguese at Whydah, and to natives in other parts of the country, and that the Egbas are now ready to go on an expedition into Dahomey. Their friends, or supposed friends, have, however, been seized, sent to Dahomey, and the King is calling his people from all quarters to defend their territory: so great is the panic in Whydah, Godomey, and other places where white men are, that to prevent all taking flight the King allows no egress to black or white. There are two Brazilians here from Godomey; one goes to

Lagos to-morrow, with Hansen, on pretence of going to Cootenoo on business; they managed to escape the vigilance of the scouts; so far as I know, they have not said a word about it, but as the one going to Lagos was some time ago made a Captain by the King of Dahomey, and installed with some ceremony, he has an excuse for not mentioning what is so little to his credit, in deserting the King in his difficulty. I will let you know more when I get more particular information; I must set the native agency here to find out the direction of the expedition, if it actually sets out.

These are peaceful farmers, after having, by the interference of the English, succeeded in throwing the King of Dahomey off his guard, they now take an opportunity to pounce upon him unawares.

Inclosure 6 in No. 10.

The Rev. T. B. Freeman to the Rev. E. A. Gardiner.

(Extract.)

I AM glad to tell you that I have received a letter direct from the King of Dahomey, assuring me that he has no intention of attacking Abbeokuta. He declares that such a step on his part would be too much at variance with his goodwill towards England and the English to be at all in harmony with his present feelings. He thus authorises me to deny his having any hostile intention, and to declare his peaceful purposes. I may here remark that a strong guarantee of the King's truthfulness is his having, in spite of all intrigues and machinations against our Mission at Whydah, removed all extraordinary obstacles out of our path there, and, with ample protection, left us free to act upon the people for good. Dawson tells me that the King's Headman, or Viceroy, at Whydah, himself no sincere friend of ours, has intimated to those under his authority that their heads will be in danger if they molest or interfere with us.

Inclosure 7 in No. 10.

— to the Rev. E. A. Gardiner.

(Extract.)

Abbeokuta, August 27, 1855.

I AM very sorry to inform you that there was a human sacrifice offered up here by the Alake's order, by the people of Owu, which thing is a breach of the Treaty which the Egbas made with England and the Alake seems not to care a button, when he was told of the mischief he and his people had done. I trust to write you more fully on the subject at the earliest opportunity, for the information of the Consul; and unless the Alake and his Chiefs are reprimanded for this barbarous action, they will not take care next time.

Inclosure 8 in No. 10.

— to —.

(Extract.)

Abbeokuta, August 28, 1855.

HAVING promised to write you more fully respecting the human sacrifice which the Alake or the King authorized the people of Owu to offer up, simply because they were intending to reign another King.

This took place on Friday morning, at 9 o'clock precisely, on the 17th instant. The scene was very horrible: the unfortunate man was bound with cord around both arms, backward, very tight, and a small wooden pin, tied with a small string at each end, was put across his mouth and wrapped around his occiput, to prevent the sufferer from crying out. They shaved his head very clean, ere they took a knife and cut his throat partly; after that they began to fire at the poor fellow with muskets. Thus the poor man was murdered in his cold blood.

I can assure you, Sir, that my heart bled when I saw this awful sight. One

of the converts who went with me to see the corpse could not restrain himself from bursting into a flood of tears.

I spoke to the people that what they did was wrong in the sight of God : to murder their fellow-creature. I scarcely done speaking ere the people of Owu flew upon me from every direction, and loaded me with many abusive language, which I care very little for ; one of them was so bold, that he threatened to chop or cut one of the Xt. converts who went with me ; but I told the converts to be quiet, even if they should cut any of them or myself ; that they should not make any resistance. Thus the most obdurate and hard-hearted Owu people treated us : may the Lord have mercy upon them !

I herewith furnish you with the Alake's remarks, when he was informed of all what the Owu people did.

He said that if should he die, and should they mean to reign another King after him, human sacrifice must be offered. I therefore reminded him of the Treaty which he and his Chiefs entered with England, and signed by the late Captain F. E. Forbes, when he visited here on the 5th of January, 1852. This he seems not to regard.

I send this for your information, as well as Her M. British Consul, B. Campbell, Esq., and to see whether the Consul will make the Alake and his Chiefs accountable for the barbarous action which they had committed.

After all the great kindness which the Queen of England and her Government had done for the Egbas as a nation, and still doing, they should be the last to break treaty with England. And if they are not check for so doing, they will do worse.

P.S.—That this is not the first time the Alake and Chiefs broke the Treaty which they had signed, but the second time. Last year, on Sunday the 8th of Oct., the Ikereku people offered up human sacrifice, after they were warned not to do it. Best compliments to the Consul, wishing him health and peace, &c.

No. 11.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 13.)

My Lord,

Lagos, September 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT the accompanying copy of a short correspondence I have had with Mr. Walter Hansen, of this place, trusting that your Lordship will approve of my having plainly made known to Senhor José Francisco de Santos, that Her Majesty's Government do not encourage the Egbas in their aggressions against their neighbours. I readily took advantage of this opportunity to make the same known, because a contrary opinion generally prevails throughout the Dahomian and other territories adjoining the Egba territory.

This Senhor de Santos is a coloured Brazilian established at Whydah, and is one of the Military Captains appointed by the King of Dahomey to command the forces that can be raised at Whydah and the neighbouring towns. The general opinion here is, that he has been delegated by the King of Dahomey and the Chiefs of Whydah to visit Kosoko, and confer with him respecting the hostile movements of the Egbas.

He called at the Consulate and wished me to give him a passport to proceed on to Whydah : I declined giving him one, because there was no necessity for it ; it being perfectly secure travelling from Whydah to Epé by the Lagoons.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Mr. Hansen to Consul Campbell.

My dear Sir,

Lagos, September 4, 1855.

I AM desired by Senhor José Francisco de Santos to ask if it is your particular request that he would make it known to the people in authority at

Whydah that the late proceedings of the Egbas is not tolerated by the English Government.

He says that he came here with no view whatever referring to politics, and consequently does not wish to mix himself up in such matter, but if it is your earnest wish that he would make this understood he will do so to oblige you.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WALTER HANSEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Consul Campbell to Mr. Hansen.

My dear Sir,

Lagos, September 4, 1855.

I CERTAINLY wish it to be generally understood that Her Britannic Majesty's Government do not encourage, and therefore disapprove of, the Egbas molesting, by their warlike aggressions, any of their neighbours, the Dahomians, or any other.

Yours truly,

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 12.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of August, and I have, in reply, to inform you that I approve of the steps which you have taken for the establishment at Lagos of a Court composed of immigrants from Sierra Leone, for the settlement of disputes and differences amongst their own countrymen, and that I also approve the regulations drawn up by that Court for their guidance, and to which you have given your sanction.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 13.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, October 19, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of August, and I have, in reply, to express to you my approval of the letters which you addressed on the 13th of June and 23rd of July to the Alake of Abbeokuta, in reply to his complaints respecting the difficulties experienced by the Egbas in carrying on the trade in palm oil at Lagos.

I have also to acquaint you that I approve of your intention of visiting the Alake in the dry season; and I have to instruct you to express to him upon that occasion the indignation and disgust of Her Majesty's Government on learning that he has broken the engagement contracted by him in his Treaty with Great Britain, by tolerating the barbarous sacrifice of a human being, which is reported in the letter communicated to you from Abbeokuta.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 14.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 6th ultimo, with its inclosure, and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of the letter which you addressed, on

the 4th ultimo, to Mr. Hansen of Lagos, stating that Her Majesty's Government disapprove of, and will give no encouragement to, the predatory aggressions of the Egbas upon their neighbours.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 15.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Lagos, September 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, copy of a letter I received from Mr. Dawson, the native agent of the Wesleyan Missionary Society living at Whydah, and of my reply thereto.

I have no doubt that the King of Dahomey not only feels the effect of the break in the Slave Trade in a serious falling off in his revenue from that source, but he must also feel his isolation as regards a friendly understanding with Her Majesty's Government. His great compeer in Slave Trade, Kosoko, having engaged by Treaty to abandon the Slave Trade, and now occupying himself with his natural energy and activity in a peaceful legitimate commerce, and King Gezo's relative and neighbour, the King of Porto Novo, enjoying, through the trade at Badagry and the state of peace which now reigns throughout the frontier towns of his dominions, a great increase in his revenue from the peaceful trade in palm oil, are circumstances which have doubtless induced the King of Dahomey to seek to improve his relations with Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Mr. Dawson to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Whydah, August 29, 1855.

I BEG to take up my pen in order to write you now an important subject which I have had in my hand since last four months, waiting for my father in God, the Rev. T. B. Freeman's coming down to Lagos as to have met him, and to have hand it over to him; but his coming down being delayed by the multiplicity of business he has to attend at the Windward circuit, and message after message having come to me from His Majesty the King of Dahomey, to know how I am going on with the affairs he and I talked of while I was with him, I deem it prudent to delay no longer in acquainting your Honour with them, that I may be able to inform him something respecting them.

On the 10th April last, being called by the King of Dahomey to read a letter written by Lord Clarendon on the part of Her Majesty the great Queen of England, I left Whydah for Abomey for that purpose; that letter I found to be an answer to a letter which His Majesty the King of Dahomey wrote, through the Rev. T. B. Freeman, respecting the renewal of that relationship which once existed between the kingdom of Dahomey and that of Her Britannic Majesty's kingdom, and in it his Lordship expresses Her Majesty's readiness to meet His Majesty's wishes if he would only concur the terms on which she would have it renewed, and that is the entire doing away with that awful trade of exporting human beings as cargo to foreign lands to toil in slavery—a stop to which his Lordship expresses a sorrow of having been unable to succeed within the last ten years; he reminded him also of the solemn engagement made with Captain Forbes, in which he has failed, by having allowed slaves shipped from his seaport Whydah last year; this is the substance of the letter, to which His Majesty answered that there is no unwillingness on his part to concur with the terms which Her Majesty purposes, for his strong affection for the English Government and her Queen is such that it is impossible to admit any feeling of the kind, and that if nobody else know his affection for the English Queen and Government, the Rev. T. B. Freeman does, and that it is only the parties who bring

Her Majesty's messages to him that mislead him, and, in plain terms, have filled him with doubts as to the truth of their being sent direct from Her Majesty. He says about five or six years ago two white men came to report themselves of having been sent from Her Majesty to see and pen down the expense he incurs at his annual custom. Her Majesty would grant him 1,000 doubloons annually if he would consent to put an entire stop to the Slave Trade in his dominions; he consented to it; these men, after seeing part of the custom and expense, they said they were satisfied with what they had seen; they took their leave of him, went away, and there has been nothing heard or seen of them since. Again, when he returned from the attack upon Abbeokuta, two others came, reported that they were sent from Her Majesty to forbid any attack upon that place, because the place belongs to her, and they were commanded also to make engagement with him to leave off the Slave Trade, and that if he consent, Her Majesty promised to grant him every necessities to meet the expense of his customs; to these also he agreed; to the former, he requested Captain Forbes, who was the foreman, to go down to Abbeokuta and get a messenger from the King there to come up to Abomey with him to settle the case between him and the people; they came down to Whydah, and returned back to him, to ask for an answer, which he could not understand; he told them that he had nothing more to say to them; they came away, no messenger from Abbeokuta came, neither has anything been seen since of them, and there has been nothing sent from Her Majesty to him; all these disappointments fill him with doubts as to the truth of their being sent from the Queen of England.

He mentioned Commander Adams and you having written him respecting some report having been circulated about his going to attack Abbeokuta again; he desired me to tell you that he has not mind to attack the place, because his word has been given to the Queen of England, because the place belongs to her, and he would not attack it again, only he asks your Honour to bring up a messenger from the King of the place, and try to spare little time to come up to see him, that the case may be settled before you. He would have been to the place long ago, if he has not been given to understand that she belongs to Her Majesty the Queen of England, who is his best friend; he told me that there is a friendly intercourse between the Abbeokutans and himself, and that your coming with messenger from the King there will confirm and put everything right. He is prepared to meet Her Majesty's proposed terms, and says, for although he paid no attention to stop any shipment there may have been in his dominions he had no hand in it, and the reason for his non-attention to the engagement with Captain Forbes is what he has given above, they filled him with doubts, because they promised and never fulfilled to him. I beg leave to say, sir, that now is the only time to act upon him; for although it may be said he is obliged to desist that wicked trade from some other cause, and not the mere British influence on him, I beg to say, sir, that much ground can be got to put an entire stop to the Slave Trade, for, acting upon him now, while he is quite willing, from what I see of him, will shut up every room of ever resuming it in his country, looking at the enormous profits that come to him from that trade, and when once that is entirely put a stop to I have no doubt he shall cease wars too; when he finds no place to sell slaves he shall not trouble himself with the going to war.

The last visit was my sixth, and I know how he expressed himself on the former occasions on that subject, and how he did this time, proved to me that he is sincere in all what he said to me, for he went so far as to mention the parties who poison his mind against the English in general, and the many tricks they play secretly by those parties against them; it has been the practice of those parties (or enemies) that as soon as any Englishman lands at Whydah and had any wish to see him, they send privately to say many false things of the Englishman's intentions, and they try by some means to act upon the Chief at Whydah to injure the cause of the Englishman; and may I humbly beg to say that this opportunity ought not to be allowed to pass without embracing, if that heaven-born country, England, wants to do any good for the poor degraded Africans.

Another thing the King of Dahomey earnestly desires, and which might be doubtless auxiliary to the entire breaking down of that awful Slave Trade, is the getting an English merchant to establish a palm-oil factory at Whydah; on this I particularly crave your Honour's attention, for I believe it will do more

than whatever Her Gracious Majesty has ever done for the purpose of doing away with the Slave Trade. The King is so much anxious that he has invoked his dumb idols to put into the minds of the good English merchants to send him out good trade, and remarked, I hear, that his best friends forbid the Slave Trade, and what must he have for that stead.

The question of bringing or establishing English trade or factory at Whydah has been brought before me several times, but I have always shun the having anything to do with, but I thought it prudent to give ear to the heir through whom I had to see the King this time, and proposed to write a letter for the father, to ask some of the English merchants to form friendship with him and to meet his wishes, should he wish me to do so, and promise in every respect to protect such one that may be sent out to reside at Whydah; and every question that I thought proper being answered in the affirmative to my satisfaction by his father the King, I asked him to give me some country cloth as curiosity to be presented from him to the friends I may write. For this purpose he gave me three country cloths, one intended for the captain who will take them to Europe. When I arrived at Whydah I met a Liverpool barque in the roads, consigned to the French factory, whose Captain (J. Bell by name) paid me visit, and in conversation expressed his wonder at the quantity of palm-oil there is at Whydah, and that if it were known in Liverpool by the merchants, and if the King of Dahomey would allow, some of them would be glad to establish factory here. I embraced that chance, and opened the arrangement made by the King to him, and asked him to recommend me to whom I must write. He kindly furnished me with a list of their names and places of abode, and to the first two partners on the list, Messrs. Stewart and Douglas, I wrote, and sent the two cloths, not knowing Mr. Sandeman is their agent out here on the coast, to whom now I have written to come down with this.

I beg to inclose you a copy of the letter I wrote to the gentlemen, for your perusal, and also to beg of your Honour to make any additional effort in your power to induce them to accept the King's offer, humbly begging that the subject may be allowed to gain your Honour's particular attention, and that God grant you that grace to exert your Honour's self in a work like this, which is no doubt calculated to stop great many evils in the Kingdom of Dahomey, that the poor benighted inhabitants may have war no more, as to sell their countrymen to foreign lands to toil in slavery.

Begging your Honour to receive my humble respect and good wishes, and the same from the King, I beg, &c.,

(Signed) JOSEPH DAWSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Consul Campbell to Mr. Dawson.

Dear Sir,

Lagos, September 10, 1855.

I HAVE received and read with great attention your letter of the 29th of August last, regarding the King of Dahomey's wish to improve his relations with Her Majesty's Government, and to have English trading factories at Whydah. I will not fail to send your letter to Her Majesty's Government. I have already had some conversation with Mr. Sandeman, the agent of Messrs. Stewart and Douglas for their trade in the Bight of Benin, and I think it probable he will visit Whydah for the purpose of ascertaining whether it will be advantageous to establish a factory there. I must tell you that not only English agents and supercargoes, but Hamburgh and others, entertain a great reluctance to have any transactions with the traders of Whydah, on account of Slave Trade, and also on account of their general reputation for dishonesty.

In your intercourse with the King of Dahomey, his heir, and his Chiefs, whether at Abomey or Whydah, you should bring to their notice that the King of Dahomey has signed but one Article of the Slave Trade Treaty—that for the suppression of the export Slave Trade in his dominions—and that even this one Article has not been faithfully observed; and that no complete amicable relations can exist between the King of Dahomey and Her Majesty's Government, unless he solemnly signs, and truly observes, every Article of the Treaty which was proposed to him by Captain Forbes, when in command of Her Majesty's ship

“Philomel,” who visited Abomey with Mr. Fraser, the late Vice-Consul. In that Treaty was comprised one Article—that for the complete abolition of human sacrifices, at all times and under all circumstances, and especially those which at Abomey take place periodically on a wholesale scale; the recital of which, by those who have witnessed them, and the knowledge that such barbarous and inhuman atrocities take place annually, fill the minds of Her Majesty the Queen of England, her Government, and her subjects, and the minds of all Christian Sovereigns and their subjects, with horror and deep sorrow.

I thank you for the trouble you are taking, and I shall be at all times happy to hear from you.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 16.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Lagos, October 1, 1855.

IN a conversation I lately had with the Rev. Mr. Smith, one of the Church Missionary Agents from Abbeokuta, who is now here with Mrs. Smith, waiting the arrival of the packet to take passage to England for the benefit of their health, I was informed by him, that the Ibaddans had not long since returned from a predatory excursion against the towns situated not far from the Niger, bringing with them upwards of a thousand unfortunate captives, who are being sent, by way of Abbeokuta, to Whydah for sale. Mr. Smith expressed an earnest hope that the cruizers on this station would keep a good look-out on that and the neighbouring ports.

I am happy in being able to report to your Lordship that for many months past, in consequence of the perfect tranquillity reigning at this and other places along the sea-board, the cruizers attached to the Bights division, instead of, as heretofore, remaining at anchor off Lagos for months at a time, in order to protect the place, have been enabled to watch the suspected ports. At this moment, unfortunately, the whole division is gone to Cape Coast Castle, in consequence of an expected attack on that place, by the Ashantees.

This success of the Ibaddans will, I fear, have a bad effect on the Abbeokutans, who have recommenced their wars, or rather slave-hunts, by falling on the towns on the Dahomian frontier. On a late attack, the Abbeokutans are stated to have lost severely; one-half of their attacking party having been cut to pieces, or captured.

It is now openly stated that on the approach of the dry season the Abbeokutans, in conjunction with the Ibaddans, are to attack Jaboo Odé, the residence of the King of Jaboo.

Mr. Williams, the interpreter, informs me that the young children captives made by the Ibaddans, are finding their way down here for sale; these would be unsaleable at Whydah for exportation, but are eagerly bought here for domestic purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 17.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Lagos, October 2, 1855.

IN my despatch dated August 30 last, I reported to your Lordship that the Egba traders had not been to Lagos market for five months.

A part of them have since visited Lagos; but before bringing their canoes laden with oil from the Island of Eshalli, where they are in the habit of assembling before they cross over to the town, the Chiefs of the Egba traders

had a conference with the Sierra Leone and Brazilian traders, who had, imprudently, trusted them very largely.

At this conference the Egba traders complained of their losses in the palm-oil trade; that it was a trade not to be followed by men, but by women; that their ancestors did not occupy themselves with palm-oil trade, but with Slave Trade; that, by pleasing the English to abandon Slave Trade and take to the palm-oil trade, they had all become poor; and they spoke in such disparaging terms of the English, that Mr. Williams the interpreter, and others, left the meeting, particularly an influential man among the Sierra Leone people named Macauley, the owner of a brig of 160 tons, now at anchor off Lagos, waiting for a cargo of palm oil.

The Egba traders declared they would not pay their debts unless their creditors agreed to receive the oil at a price 20 per cent. higher than was current at the time they took the goods on credit from the Sierra Leone people. To those traders who came to me for advice, I recommended them to accept the offer of the Egbas, as it was better to get 15s. in the pound than nothing. The whole of the Sierra Leone traders at length agreed to receive the oil due to them at the enhanced price.

The Civil Government at Abbeokuta is, I fear, very weak, and unable to contend with the military Chiefs and their numerous followers, who find devoting their time to a steady legitimate trade is less profitable, and not so exciting, as going to war and making captives. If they would not interfere with the well-disposed traders and agriculturists, the evil would not be so great; but they overawe these classes, and interfere in their peaceful pursuits. These classes are neither so numerous nor so influential as the war Chiefs and their followers; but every convert to Christianity that is made by the Missionary Societies, and they amount now, I am informed, to about 500, is an accession to the number of the peaceable and industrious classes. From accounts which I have received, and in which I confide, the converts to Christianity have given up the Slave Trade for ever, and are devoting their time either to agriculture or to trade; some of the subordinate Chiefs are also turning their attention to agriculture, but, I fear, as yet, only as an experiment. It is to be hoped that the great success which lately attended the marauding expedition of the Ibaddans may not have an evil influence over those Chiefs of Abbeokuta who have been induced to try what the soil can produce for them.

I directed Mr. Williams the interpreter to note down from his own recollection, and the recollection of other Sierra Leone people, what had been stated by the Egbas at the conference. He has given me the result of his recollection of what passed, but he left at the same time as Mr. Macauley, and he says that on applying to some who remained till the conference broke up, they would not communicate anything to him, stating they were ashamed of their countrymen, and did not wish me to know what had passed.

I beg to inclose, for your Lordship's information, Mr. Williams' notes of what passed at the conference above alluded to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Report.

AT a meeting held at the frontage of Ajania House, present of almost the Egba traders, and greater part of the Sierra Leone emigrants were present there.

The first man that opened the meeting give his compliment to all the meeting, and then he begin to speak, say, "Keep silence, ye Lagos people, I beg you pardon;" and he turned to the Sierra Leone emigrants, and say the same to them, "Keep silence, I beg you pardon, all English emigrants. It is true that, before the white man came to Abbeokuta, some of the Egbas have 200 or 300 slaves; but when the white man came to Shodeke, and tell him not to sell slaves any more, the Queen of England do not like it; if they leave off selling slaves, the Queen shall always be in their part. Shodeke called all the Egbas,

told them that the Queen say that they must not sell slaves any more; so they asked Shodeke what work they are to do when they leave off selling slaves. Then Shodeke asked the white man what to do after leave off from selling slaves. The white man told them to trade palm oil; so they ask how is that—is not a woman to sell oil, how can a man sell oil like a woman? Shodeke say they must believe whatever white men say to them, so all the Egbas believe this words. From that time they began to sell this oil, those that have 300 slaves, now left 50; and they that have 200, left 40; and that of 100, left 20; that of 50, left 5. So they remember that it would been better if they have been trading slaves as they used to do.” So one Mr. John Macauley, who just came from Sierra Leone, with his own brig, to buy oil, been at the same meeting; so he, the said Mr. Macauley, said, “Is this the reward you, foolish fellow, will return to the English Government for spending their money, and leave their town on your account; and after which they send your sons and daughters back to you again; is that the reward you will return her?”

So he, the said Mr. Macauley, rose up from his seat, and go his way; but what have been saying again is not heard of us to write down.

This is all the information I can gather from the meeting held on the 17th and 18th September, 1855.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) S. B. WILLIAMS,

Interpreter for Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate at Lagos.

No. 18.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th September last, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between yourself and Mr. Dawson, a native agent of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, residing at Whydah, on the subject of the wish expressed by the King of Dahomey to enter into friendly relations with Her Majesty's Government. And I have, in reply, to inform you that I approve the letter which you addressed to Mr. Dawson on the 10th of September.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 19.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

My Lord,

Lagos, October 16, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a letter I wrote to Mr. Dawson, the agent of the Wesleyan Mission at Whydah, in reply to a letter he wrote to me at the instance of the King of Dahomey, expressing the King's wish that I would visit him at Abomey.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 19.

Consul Campbell to Mr. Dawson.

Dear Sir,

Lagos, October 15, 1855.

I HAVE received your last letter, wherein you inform me that the King of Dahomey expresses a wish to see me.

I must inform you that I could not leave this to go to Abomey without directions from Her Majesty's Government, and I am certain that Her Majesty's

Government will not sanction my going to Abomey without a certain prospect that the King will sign and conclude the entire Treaty; above all, that part relating to the abolition of human sacrifices. The King has signed the 1st Article of the Treaty relating to the Slave Trade, which having been repeatedly broken by shipments of cargoes of slaves from Whydah, and other ports in the King of Dahomey's territories, has greatly displeased the Queen's Government.

I send you a copy of the Treaty concluded by the late King Akitoye, and the Chiefs of Lagos. You will see that I have, in my own handwriting, put the alteration of the King of Dahomey instead of the King of Lagos; this copy is for you to read over and explain faithfully and correctly to King Gezo and the Chiefs he consults, and if they seriously make up their minds to sign the Treaty and to act faithfully up to it, then I have no doubt Her Majesty's Government will instruct me to proceed to Abomey.

The King must recollect that, with the suppression of the Slave Trade, the wholesale murder of human beings for superstitious reasons must cease; that no right-minded Christian people can dwell, either as missionaries or traders, in a country where such frightful deeds take place. That there remains only the King of Dahomey and the King of Benin who have not yet concluded Treaties with the Queen of England to abolish so cruel and barbarous a custom; and I have received an invitation from the King of Benin to visit him, and I hope, when I visit him, to prevail on him to conclude a Treaty to abolish for ever sacrificing human lives. Now, the King of Benin never having yet had any friendly intercourse with the Agents of the Queen's Government, it will bring shame on the King of Dahomey in the eyes of all Christian Kings, if he is left alone, the last to pursue such inhuman practices as killing harmless, unoffending people, whom he has caught in war, and for no other reason than because his ancestors did so before him, and that it is necessary to maintain his power. This last plea is a bad one, and cannot be true, because other Kings maintain their authority over their subjects without making human sacrifices, as instance, the King of Porto Novo.

I feel certain your amiable and excellent chief, the Rev. Mr. Freeman, will gladly allow you to devote your time in bringing King Gezo to a sense of the propriety and necessity of concluding the whole Treaty with the Queen's Government. The King must never expect the friendship of the Queen of England's Government until he has signed the whole Treaty, and, by his altered conduct in Slave Trade matters, given an assurance that he will faithfully observe it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 20.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, November 8, 1855.

I INTEND to visit Abbeokuta, although the sun is at this season oppressively hot. I shall not fail to reprove the Chiefs for the violation of their Treaty engagement in making human sacrifices—for it appears that no less than six unfortunate persons have been sacrificed, one actually buried alive—and urge upon them to abandon their marauding and kidnapping expeditions, if they wish to retain the friendship of Her Majesty's Government, and the interest felt for their welfare by their many sincere and powerful friends in England.

No. 21.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 16th of October, I have to inform you that I approve the letter which you wrote to Mr. Dawson at Whydah, informing him that it will be useless for you to undertake a journey

to Dahomey, until the King and Chiefs of that country shall express their readiness to conclude a Treaty similar to that which was signed by King Akitoye and the Chiefs of Lagos, on the 1st of January, 1852.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 22.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th of November, stating that you intend to visit Abbeokuta; and I have to acquaint you that I approve your intention to make that journey, and to take that opportunity of remonstrating with the Chiefs of Abbeokuta, against the human sacrifices which I regret to learn have taken place there.

No. 23.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 21, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 6, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that I proceeded on the 15th ultimo, in company with Lieutenant de Robeck, second of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," to Abbeokuta, and arrived there on Monday the 19th.

The vast size of the town, and the extent of the population, appeared to me to exceed all the accounts I had read and heard of it. The town is of great natural strength, being built, in most part, on the sides and at the bases of the range of hills which runs through its whole extent, about five miles; the whole being surrounded by a good wall and ditch, which must have been a work of great labour. The population has been variously estimated at 60,000 and 100,000; but, in my opinion, nearly double the latter number must nightly sleep within the walls. I cannot conceive how a people having the reputation among the other native tribes of being great warriors, can entertain as they do, the constant dread of an attack from the King of Dahomey, the extent of whose forces, even during the, to him, palmy days of the Slave Trade, by all accounts never exceeded 15,000 or 16,000 men and women, which the Abbeokutans in the town, reinforced by their brethren from their farms, and from the numerous villages around, are able to meet with at least 20,000 fighting men.

In consequence of the absurd practice of showing a Chief's importance by keeping his stranger visitors waiting some time, or from some other motive, we did not get an audience of the Alake and Chiefs till the third day after our arrival, when we were summoned to the Alake's very confined house.

I informed the Alake and Chiefs that I had been prevented visiting them earlier, but that I took that opportunity of thanking them, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, for the protection and assistance they had afforded to the missionaries who had been sent to impart to them the knowledge of that religion which had produced such great benefit of the white man, and had led to that great superiority which they must admit existed in the white man, over the children of Africa. I also thanked them for having latterly protected the Christian converts from the persecution of their foolish heathen relatives, and informed them of the deep interest felt by Her Majesty's Government, and by the many thousand virtuous people in England, who sent the missionaries among them in the welfare of all, and particularly of those who embraced our religion; that the persecution of the Christian converts gave extreme pain to their many friends who took a deep interest in the prosperity of their town; and I charged the Chiefs, especially those who possess great influence and physical power, to interpose on behalf of the converts when any attempts were made to molest them for having listened to, and been convinced, by the teaching of the missionaries, of the happiness and peace of mind which Christianity imparted—so different from the incessant dread of evil which through the superstitious fears

of paganism always haunted those who preferred to remain in their present benighted state.

I then alluded to the Treaty which they had concluded with Her Majesty's Government, through the late Commander Forbes, and told them that the gross infraction of it by the sacrifice of a human being, some months since, had caused the greatest pain and astonishment, even at Lagos; and would, when known in England, cause the deepest pain and sorrow to their numerous powerful and influential friends; and that the repetition of such a deed would place them, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, on a footing with the Dahomians.

To this the Alake replied, that the sacrifice of the unfortunate man was for political purposes, and that, therefore, the Chiefs did not consider it came within the terms of the Treaty. I told them that, for any purpose whatever, the sacrifice of human beings was forbidden by the Treaty; and that if they valued the friendship of Her Majesty's Government, and the very deep interest taken in their welfare by their numerous friends in England, they must never repeat such an act.

The Alake and Chiefs, through their spokesman, then entered into other matters; the hostility of Kosoko, of the Adu people, and of the Kings of Porto Novo and Dahomey, towards them; of the great disappointment they felt at any peace having been made with Kosoko; that I had disappointed all their expectations by recommending the Commander-in-chief to make peace with him.

The formal interview being over, left me at liberty, accompanied by my companion Lieutenant de Robeck, to visit the various Chiefs, who, one and all, appeared pleased with my visit to their town, and in return they visited me.

We afterwards rode round to the different stations of the Church Missionary Society, and were much pleased with the neatness, order, and cleanliness of the dwelling-houses, and with the simple and primitive appearance of the churches. 'Tis to be regretted that the Chiefs generally do not take the former as a model for their dwellings, which are totally unfit for European habitation. One very intelligent Chief, Ogubonna, has made an attempt to improve his house on the model of the missionaries' houses, and is also not only planting cotton for exportation himself, but encouraging others to do the same; but he is greatly in want of a press, of simple construction, to form it into bales suitable to transport it, in the small canoes of the country, to Lagos.

Unfortunately, this well-disposed man is not the supreme Chief; he is a war Chief, and next in rank to the Basherun.

In my intercourse with the Chiefs, on my private visits to them, and the return visits they made me, they all appeared to entertain the most friendly feelings towards the missionaries generally; some of them have sent their children to the schools to remain, and to be brought up by the missionaries; and it was related to me that, on one of the Basherun's wives, a favourite one, becoming a convert to Christianity, the Chief sent her two young children to Mr. Townsend's establishment to be reared and instructed.

On the whole, a deep impression has been made on the native mind generally at Abbeokuta, and on the Chiefs in particular, who appear to feel the value of English friendship. Nothing has tended to make this impression so much as the, to them, inexplicable disinterestedness of England in rescuing their countrymen from the slave-dealers; setting them free in Sierra Leone; the paternal care with which they were treated there; the encouragement given to them to improve their position by trade and commerce; their gratuitous instruction by the missionaries; the allowing them, at their own will and pleasure, to return to their country with the property they had acquired by their industry, without exacting any portion of it from them; the sending, at great expense, many missionaries to them at Abbeokuta and other towns, to instruct and convert them, and all this gratuitously; are circumstances which have not failed to impress a general feeling of respect for the English among the multitude, and the oppressed female sex in particular. In our long rides through various parts of the town, the streets and crowded market-places, we were everywhere saluted, in the language of the country, with "Welcome, white men! Welcome, white men!"

Our time being limited, we left Abbeokuta, after taking a friendly leave of the Chiefs, on the 29th ultimo, reaching Lagos on the 1st instant.

We took the route, both in going to and returning from Abbeokuta, by the river, supposing it to be the best, because it is that mostly used by the

missionaries. The route by land must be more preferable: the distance is but the half of the river route; can be conveniently performed on horseback, notwithstanding the bad state of the roads, in two days and a-half; and the damp exhalations from the river, the torrest of the inequalities, and the confined position in a small, narrow canoe, are avoided.

My young companion, I regret to say, was attacked with slight fever before reaching Lagos. A few days of careful nursing, and the use of the proper remedies, enabled him to return to his ship convalescent.

No. 24.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 21, 1856.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 7, 1855.

IN my despatch dated the 1st of October last, I reported to your Lordship, on the authority of the Rev. J. Smith, of the Church Missionary Society, that the people of Ibadda had returned to their town, after a successful expedition against some interior tribes, bringing with them upwards of 1,000 captives.

On my visit to Abbeokuta I learnt that the country that had been invaded by the Ibadda people is called Efont, and is situated near the Niger; that the Ibaddans, after meeting with considerable resistance, succeeded in sweeping off the whole population of the district—some 10,000; and that they had brought that number of unfortunate captives into Ibadda. It appears from further statements I received, that the Ibaddans are unable to find a market for the adult portion of the captives they brought with them; they have tried to sell them in the Jaboo markets (where Kosoko trades) without success; and they have tried Whydah, equally without success. The Ibaddans, therefore, finding themselves encumbered with a number of captives whom they must feed, are glad to sell them at the low rate of 5 heads of cowries each—sterling value about 15s. It is to be hoped that, at this low value, many of these unfortunate people may be redeemed by their few countrymen who escaped the merciless razzia of the Ibaddans. They have found no difficulty in disposing of the children captives, these being readily bought up everywhere, for domestic purposes.

In a conversation with the Rev. Mr. Hinderer, who is stationed at Ibadda, but who has lately been on a visit to Lagos, he confirmed the accounts I had received at Abbeokuta, of the number of captives that had entered Ibadda. From the position of his house he witnessed the painful sight of many hundreds, day after day, entering the town. During the short visit made by Mr. Smith at Ibadda, only a portion of the captives had been sent into the town.

I was further informed, when at Abbeokuta, that the people of Ijaye, where there is a missionary station, had lately returned from a marauding expedition against a people inhabiting a country called Esha-bay, and from the circumstance of the expedition returning with but few captives, but with a booty of some 4,000 head of cattle, I apprehend that Esha-bay is inhabited by pastoral Fellatas or Foulahs.

The success of the marauders of Ijaye has excited the cupidity of a portion of the population of Abbeokuta, and two sections of them—the Baguras and Owus, mostly Mahometans—were to start a few days after my departure, on an expedition against Esha-bay, with the hope of obtaining similar plunder to that of the people of Ijaye.

As cattle can be readily disposed of, at prices varying from 10 to 20 heads of cowries per head, they are likely to be preferable objects for plunder to human beings, so long as there is no sale for any number of the latter at the sea-ports.

I found the Chiefs of Abbeokuta had no power to prevent this expedition of the Baguras and Owus, their fellow-inhabitants; and it being for the object of stealing cattle, and not human beings to make slaves of, they would have little inclination, even if they had the power, to prevent the expedition going on its aggressive purpose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 25.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 21, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 8, 1855.

ON the occasion of the private interview with the Alake of Abbeokuta, he again upbraided me with having made peace with Kosoko.

It appeared to me so evident that these people had been led to calculate on the assistance of British aid in overcoming those whom they considered their enemies, that I took upon myself (and I especially request your Lordship's approval or disapproval for having done so) distinctly to tell the Alake, in the presence of Lieutenant de Robeck, that he and his Chiefs must not expect that Her Majesty's Government will assist them in their aggressive wars against their neighbours; that the policy of Her Majesty's Government was to promote peace, by which alone legitimate trade could prosper, and the great resources of the country be developed; that war only fed the Slave Trade; that they must be now aware how strongly England was opposed to the Slave Trade, and that, therefore, the Queen's Government would neither enter into nor encourage aggressive warfare; that the Egbas can become a great people among their neighbours without war: they had a fruitful soil around their town, and they now possessed a navigable river to convey the heavy and bulky productions of their country to the sea-port Lagos.

That, as they complained their peaceable traders and their farmers living at a distance from the walls of the town were frequently kidnapped by the Ibaddans and others, I recommended the Alake and Chiefs to endeavour to obtain redress for these wrongs by peaceable negotiation, if possible; that, if after repeated wrongs of this nature suffered, their efforts for redress proved fruitless, they would then be justified in resorting to the harsh extreme of war. But I requested the Alake, in the event of the water-side people wronging his country people, that he would acquaint me with the same, that I might use my influence to obtain redress.

No. 26.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 25, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve of your proceedings as reported in your despatch of the 6th of December last, giving an account of your visit to Abbeokuta, in company with Lieutenant de Robeck, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 27.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 25, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve the language held by you to the Alake of Abbeokuta, as reported in your despatch of the 8th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 28.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 8.)

My Lord,

Lagos, January 6, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report, on information received from an officer of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Hecate," that, on or about the 2nd instant, that vessel, being off Appi Vista, in the Bight of Benin, chased a suspicious vessel, brigantine-rigged, which, not being able to escape, was run on shore at the above-named place, and was totally destroyed.

On the boats of the "Hecate" boarding this vessel, she was found fully equipped to receive slaves. A board had been nailed over that part of the stern on which the name is usually placed. On this board being withdrawn, the vessel's name was apparent, the "*Chatsworth*," of New York.

She is stated here to be a vessel which has been some time expected by Domingo Martinez and other slave-dealers from Mr. Machado, of New York.

The spot where this vessel was run on shore is called in the Admiralty charts, Appi Vista, but is known on shore by its native name, Kootenoo, and is one of Domingo Martinez' ports for the shipment of palm-oil, and, occasionally, of slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 29.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Lagos, January 21, 1856.

I HAVE again to pray for your Lordship's interposition on behalf of the self-emancipated Africans from the Brazils, who, in taking passage from Bahia to this port, mostly in Portuguese vessels, are subject to the grossest injustice and breach of faith on the part of the masters and supercargoes of those vessels.

The agreement made by these Africans with the owners or charterers of vessels bound to this coast is, to be landed, with their families and property, at Lagos. Two gross violations of such agreement have lately occurred.

The Portuguese vessel "*General Rego*," commanded by Domingo José da Costa Lage, with Angelo Custodio Ribiero Debarco as supercargo, brought from Bahia some 40 self-emancipated Africans as passengers, whom they had contracted to land, with their property, at this place. Instead of so doing, these unfortunate people were forced on shore at Whydah, where they were first plundered of their property, and, on account of their being Egbas, were subsequently sent up to the King of Dahomey, who put to death all the adults, retaining the children as slaves.

The Portuguese schooner "*Emilia*," Captain Jacinto, supercargo, Christoph Custode, also brought from Bahia some self-emancipated Africans as passengers, in number about 15; and, instead of landing them at Lagos, as was agreed upon, they were put on shore, against their wishes, at Aghwey, from which place they were able to get away through the instrumentality of a Sierra Leone trader named Harry Johnson, who, passing Aghwey at the time, gave them a passage to this place in his vessel; but the property of these poor people was retained on board the "*Emilia*."

I beg respectfully to suggest to your Lordship that, if the owners of vessels leaving Bahia, or other ports in the Brazils, with self-emancipated Africans as passengers for Lagos, were compelled by the local authorities to give bond for the due landing at this place of the passengers and their property, a recurrence of the injustice and wrong hitherto done to the Africans would be prevented. The bond could be cancelled on the master or supercargo producing a satisfactory certificate that the passengers had been landed at their proper destination.

One objection of the masters and supercargoes of Portuguese vessels to landing their passengers from the Brazils at this place, arises from the circum-

stance that care is taken by myself and the commanders of Her Majesty's ships which may be here at the time, that all extra fitting and equipment, which had been necessary for the passengers, is landed here before the vessel leaves.

The Portuguese three-masted vessel "*Linda Flor*" brought, some time since, the large number of 230 passengers from Bahia. The master was called upon, not only to land the extra water-casks, &c., but also a large portion of the cargo belonging to the passengers, which, but for my interference, he would have carried away on the plea that the whole of the passage-money had not been paid in Bahia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 30.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 1, 1856.

I REGRET to have to report to your Lordship that there is an active renewal of the Slave Trade at Whydah and the neighbouring ports.

This Traffic was languishing until the return of Don Domingo Mustich to Whydah, since which event it has revived; and, from information I have received, I have reason to believe that one of the three vessels forming his expedition, the brig or brigantine, has got away with a cargo of slaves.

Mr. Machado, of New York, has also two vessels under the American flag, the barque "*Hermitage*" and the schooner "*David Mitchell*," hovering about the slave ports; the latter, I am well informed, will take away slaves if an opportunity offers.

Several slaves belonging to Domingo Martins, Senhor Nobre, and others, have managed to effect their escape from the barracoons; unfortunately the greater number have been intercepted on their way to this place by the natives, and retained as slaves or again sold; about 12 of them managed to reach Lagos, and, claiming my interposition, I have prevailed on King Docemo not to restore them to their owners, the slave-dealers, but to allow them to live here as freemen. They can always obtain a good livelihood by their labour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 31.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 8, 1856.

SIGNIOR GIOVANNI BAPTISTA SCALA, a Genoese merchant, who has established himself at this place, called on me after the arrival of the last packet from England, and informed me that he had been appointed Sardinian Consul.

Signior Scala at the same time placed in my hands his patent of appointment, and begged of me, at an early day, to present him to King Docemo and his Chiefs, as His Sardinian Majesty's Consul.

The patent of appointment being under the sign manual and seal of His Majesty Victor Emanuel, and in all respects correct, I did not hesitate to comply with Signior Scala's request; and on the 6th instant I presented him to King Docemo and his Chiefs, as Consul to His Sardinian Majesty; they appeared pleased at the appointment, and will duly recognise Signior Scala as Sardinian Consul.

Signior Scala's Consular jurisdiction extends from Cape Formosa to Cape Three-Points.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 32.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 24, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th ultimo, reporting that Signior Giovanni Baptista Scala, a Genoese merchant established at Lagos, has been appointed Sardinian Consul at that place; and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having presented Signior Scala to King Docemo and his Chiefs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 33.)

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 29, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 21st of January, relative to the unfortunate Africans returning from Brazil, who were forced by two Portuguese ship-masters to land at Whydah and Aghwey, I transmit herewith, for your information, copies of despatches which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, and to Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon respecting this affair.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 150 and 262.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Biafra.*

No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, January 27, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a journal of my proceedings in Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, in the Rivers Bonny, New Calabar, and Old Calabar.

Your Lordship will observe that I considered it necessary to destroy Old Town, in Old Calabar.

I sincerely hope your Lordship will be pleased to approve of the proceedings I have taken.

I leave this place to-morrow morning, in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," for the River Cameroons and Island of Bimbia, where some disturbances have very recently taken place, and to arrange which I have received a requisition for my immediate presence there.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

Journal of Proceedings in the Rivers Bonny, New Calabar, and Old Calabar.

January 4, 1855.—EMBARKED on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, for the River Bonny.

January 5.—Noon: crossed the bar and anchored below the shipping at 3 P.M. Captain Hemingway, Chairman of the Court of Equity, and several of the supercargoes, came on board. I handed the Chairman a despatch (Inclosure No. 2). He informed me there were no complaints, further than those stated in the two letters (Inclosures Nos. 3 and 4), copies of which I beg to inclose. It was then arranged that a meeting would be held next day, at 11 A.M., in the Court-house. The Chairman and supercargoes shortly after left, to give the requisite notice to the King and Chiefs, of the meeting.

January 6.—Thick hazy morning. At 10 A.M. Chairman and supercargoes assembled on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," it being their usual custom to escort the Consul to the Court-house. At 10.30 left the "Antelope," with Lieutenant-Commander Young, under a salute of seven guns, and proceeded through the creek to the Court-house. It is a large substantial building, cool and airy, and admirably adapted for the purposes it is devoted for—viz., the arranging of all disputes and matters of trade between the supercargoes and the King and Chiefs, and as a place of divine worship, where one of the supercargoes officiates every Sabbath day, the crews of the vessels in the river being present.

King Dapho and Chiefs being assembled and seated, I opened the meeting. I addressed them relative to the fulfilment of the Treaty they had signed on the 23rd January, 1854, when King Pepple was deposed, and stated that from information which had been laid before me, they were liable to be fined for violating that Treaty. The two letters were then read, one addressed to myself,

dated 23rd September, 1854, and one addressed to Captain (Commodore?) Adams, dated 22nd November, 1854. The Chairman and members stated that on two different occasions the King and Chiefs refused to attend the Court-house meetings. King Dapho pleaded sickness, and the Chiefs refused on that account; they endeavoured to shield themselves under the opinion that unless the King was there they were not bound to attend. Commander Young stated that they were apprised differently when he was there with the late Consul, in 1854. The Chiefs said that they were perfectly aware that the fine was one puncheon of palm oil each. It appeared that Anne Pepple was the principal party through whom the non-attendance arose; that he had very great influence with the King, who being a young man, was very easily lead astray, and it was greatly to be feared that if he continued listening and acting to Anne Pepple's advice, there will be some serious disturbance. At the time the letter was written for Commodore Adams, a meeting of King and Chiefs, with the supercargoes, was called. The letter was read to them. Another question was then brought before them, about a man named Yaniboo, that ex-King Pepple had left in charge of his landed property, who had deserted his charge, and gone over to Anne Pepple, who made a false claim on the person of Yaniboo. He then went to the Elve country, which caused a stoppage of trade for ninety-six days. As this man Yaniboo was to be considered a Chief (*vide* Article X, Treaty 23rd January, 1854), the supercargoes determined that Yaniboo must return to the ex-King's house, as he could not be considered a Chief if he remained under Anne Pepple. The question, "You must say if you give Yaniboo up," was put to Anne Pepple, who rose up and left the room, the other Chiefs following him; the King was the last to leave. A deputation was sent to the King's house, but none of them would return. The Court was then broken up. Captains Wylie and Cahill, on going into the town shortly after, saw many people armed, met the King, and asked the reason for such a warlike display. He (the King) endeavoured to disperse them, but was unsuccessful. On entering the market-place they were assailed by a number of women, who yelled and hooted at them, and treated them with the greatest contempt. The assailants were all of Anne Pepple's party. The supercargoes supported the King in stating that he had endeavoured to disperse the crowd, but was unable; but that he exhibited a want of confidence in carrying out his authority, and had been led too much by Anne Pepple, who, as the richest Chief in the place, should have supported the King, and endeavoured to assist him. The supercargoes further stated that they had frequently spoken to Anne Pepple of this, but he had taken no heed.

The triplicate charges on Anne Pepple made me use strong language to him. I strongly advised him to alter his ways, as long as he yet had time, and not to run on to the degree the ex-King had done, or the same fate would await him, on such complaints being again made; and that British subjects could not be treated in such a manner with impunity.

The Court decided that—

Anne Pepple	be	fined	3	punchcons	oil
King Dapho	"	"	1	"	"
Captain Hart	"	"	1	"	"
Foobra Alison	"	"	1	"	"
6 punchcons.					

The fines to be paid over to the Chairman (Captain Hemingway) before noon on Monday the 8th.

The supercargoes then made a representation that as the comeys were not sufficient to keep the King in his proper position, that in future he should be allowed to trade: as they were all of one opinion and mind on the necessity of this, I granted the King leave to do so.

Some minor palavers about slaves were brought before me, but as they related to the internal government of the country, I referred them all to the King and Chiefs.

I then requested the King and Chiefs to state if they had any complaint against any white man. They all answered "none."

I then requested Prince George Pepple to be brought to me, which was done, and it was arranged that he would proceed to Fernando Po with me.

The people were very much satisfied with King Pepple's removal, and are much averse to his returning.

The King and Chiefs took their departure.

I then stated to the Chairman and members of the Court, that I fully expected the payment of the balance of the ex-King's annual allowance, amounting to 180*l*. They answered, it would be forthcoming ere I left the river. At 3 P.M. returned on board.

January 7.—The Sabbath-day.

January 8.—Received a visit from King Dapho, who stated that a large quantity of his comeys had lately been stopped for the debts of the ex-King, and therefore he was not in a position to pay the balance of the ex-King's salary. I told him that on my arrival from New Calabar I would hold an investigation into the affairs of the ex-King, and arrange for the payment of his comeys in future. He appeared much pleased at this, stating that as he was a young man, and wished to push his way along, the detention of his comeys was a serious matter to him.

Visited the Chairman, and arranged for a meeting to be held, on our return from New Calabar, for the above purpose.

January 9.—Fine clear morning. At 7 A.M. Captains Wylie, Cahill, Grant, Witt, Finnigan, and Glanville, came on board, and we proceeded for New Calabar. At 11 A.M. passed the shipping, and anchored off the town at 11:30.

Sent a despatch on shore (Inclosure No. 5) to King and Chiefs.

Received letter (Inclosure No. 6) from Captain Cahill relative to the not breaking trade, and one from the supercargoes (Inclosure No. 7) about casks.

King Amacree and Chiefs soon made their appearance, and on being seated on deck I read Captain Cahill's letter. The King acknowledged the contents to be true; he, however, promised that such would not occur again. The letter relating to casks was then read and fully explained to them. I stated that I would make an Additional Article to the Commercial Treaty, making it illegal to use such irregular casks, with a penalty for any infringement of that Article. This met with a very decided opposition from them all, and I gave them till next day to consider the question.

King Amacree, before leaving, spoke of his presents detained in Fernando Po, which I also referred to next day. At 3 P.M. dropped down the river and anchored off Fouche Point.

January 10.—8 A.M.: got under weigh and proceeded up the river. 10 A.M.: anchored off the town; fired a gun for the King and Chiefs to come off, according to promise. After some delay the King came off alone, stating that the Chiefs refused to come. I made him aware that I would not be baulked in that manner; that the Additional Articles must be signed, and British merchants no longer robbed with impunity. He went to the town again, accompanied by Captains Cahill and Witt. In a short time they all came off, some of the Chiefs in a partly intoxicated state. On all being seated and silence obtained, the three Additional Articles were read; the second and third were at once agreed to, but the first one was refused *in toto*—they could not give up their old habits of double-dealing where and whenever they could. I fully explained it to them, and stated to them that nothing less than their signatures to it, as it was, would answer my purpose. They were very independent, stating they had no trust from any of the supercargoes. I gave them half-an-hour to come to a final conclusion. At the expiration of that period he answered they would sign it, but the supercargoes would require to increase the quantity of goods. I replied I had nothing whatever to do with their prices; they then appended their signatures. I beg to inclose the original herewith (Inclosure No. 8).

King Amacree then spoke of his presents. The captains and supercargoes stated that he had given general satisfaction during the past year. I replied that the statement of the supercargoes would go to England, and I would request instructions regarding them; they shortly after took their departure. Got under weigh, and anchored off Fouche Point at 5:15 P.M.

January 11.—Got under weigh at 8:15 A.M. and proceeded for Bonny; it had been arranged by Mr. Hemingway, the Chairman, that a meeting would be held at 3 P.M. The supercargoes came on board, and I left for the Court-house at 2:30 P.M., accompanied by Mr. V. J. Johnson, second master of the "Antelope."

On the King and Chiefs being assembled and seated, I told them the object

of the meeting. The Chairman stated that Fred Pepple had been left in charge of the ex-King's property afloat, and Yaniboo in charge of the property on shore. That when the ex-King left he was indebted above 300 puncheons of oil to the vessels in the river; that since his leaving, Fred Pepple, alone and unaided by the King or Chiefs, had collected in the interior and paid to the shipping all but seventy-two puncheons, and he considered that Fred deserved very great praise for so doing. The members of the Court all agreed in this. I then endeavoured to find what landed property the ex-King had left in the possession of Yaniboo. He was called, and stated that he had no property in his possession belonging to the ex-King.

It was the opinion of some of the members of the Court that Pepple was a very poor man at the time he was deposed; others believed him to have been worth a vast deal of property, which was either hidden in the ground or secreted in some other manner. Yaniboo and Fred Pepple denied all knowledge of any property, with the exception of slaves and canoes. It was proposed that if Fred Pepple paid the ex-King's debts, he should retain any property he was in possession of belonging to the ex-King. This was unanimously agreed to. I put the question to Fred Pepple if he would pay the seventy-two puncheons of oil and keep what property was in his hands? He said if he was allowed time he would do so; it was then agreed that he should have five months' time.

The surgeon of the "St. Andrew," Captain Ward, stated that he requested the interference of the Court with the traders, who had trust from Captain Ward, he being in a very dangerous state of health, and it was very desirable that he should leave the river as soon as possible; the trust out amounted to sixty-seven puncheons. Captain Wylie moved and Captain Cahill seconded, that notice be given to the debtors that all debts must be paid within ten days, or a fine of one puncheon of palm oil. This was unanimously carried. This finished the business for the day.

It was with sincere pleasure that I found the supercargoes thus joining together for their owners' and their own individual interest; everything is settled in their Court-house—a building which reflects great credit on them as a body. A similar establishment in each river would, I feel confident, be an inestimable benefit for both white and black traders.

January 12.—Had a visit from Fred Pepple; he wished a document from "my hand," he said. I gave him one, a copy of which I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 9).

Received the balance of King Pepple's annual allowance.

King Dapho called on me at 3 P.M., when I gave him a document, as per inclosure (Inclosure No. 10), which I hope will, in the event of a slaver entering Bonny, prevent such occurrences as that stated to your Lordship in my despatch dated 7th August, 1854.*

Saturday, January 13.—Had an early visit from King Dapho about his comeys, the ex-King's debts having been arranged for. Gave him a certificate, as per Inclosure No. 11. Prince George Pepple and servant came on board. 8.15 A.M.: got under weigh and proceeded down the river; shaped a course for Old Calabar; at 9 P.M. anchored outside in eleven fathoms water.

Sunday, January 14.—At 6.30 got under weigh and proceeded for the river; at 12.30 anchored below Duke Town; received a visit from the supercargoes in the river.

Monday, January 15.—Addressed a despatch to the Scottish missionaries, as per Inclosure No. 12. At 7 A.M. started for Creek Town, accompanied by Mr. Johnson, second master. King Eyo received us very kindly, and was in excellent health. I informed him that the supercargoes had stated to me that human sacrifices were still perpetrated in the river, although he had put a stop to such practices in his own town. He acknowledged that what I had stated was true, but urged that he had no power over the perpetrators of the late massacre. I said I was determined to put a stop to such practices by some stringent measure, stating that no civilized country could see such horrid measures taken to cut short the life of so many human beings for the purpose of fulfilling an ancient and foolish custom, which they had long promised to abolish, but which still existed to a very great extent in the river, more especially in Old Town. I arranged with King Eyo that a meeting would be held next day at noon, on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope."

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 53.

It is dreadful to listen to the supercargoes, to hear their statements of the headless bodies floating about the river, in a state of decomposition in some cases. The inhabitants refuse to listen to any of them, if they address them on that subject.

Returned on board the "Antelope." Received a letter from the supercargoes (Inclosure No. 13).

Wrote to Duke Ephraim and Chiefs (Inclosure No. 14). Answered supercargoes' letter (Inclosure No. 15).

Received a letter from Rev. William Anderson of Duke Town (Inclosure No. 16).

Tuesday, 16th.—7 A.M.: wrote to Mr. Anderson (Inclosure No. 17).

Received a note from Rev. S. Edgerley (Inclosure No. 18), with various complaints against the natives, that had never been redressed, and claiming the protection of Her Majesty's Consul.

At 11 A.M. King Eyo and Chiefs came on board; shortly after, Duke Ephraim and Chiefs made their appearance. The supercargoes were in attendance; also the Rev. Messrs. Waddel, Edgerley, and Anderson. On the meeting being opened, the supercargoes' letter was read, and explained to the Chiefs, by Captain Calvert.

Mr. Edgerley stated that Willy Tom, the Chief of Old Town, was very ill last year; that in his delirium he caused his wives and children to be put in chains; if he died they were to be massacred, and every person in the town was to take the chop-nut. He referred this to Eyo, and requested help to stop such fearful proceedings. King Eyo answered, he had no influence in Old Town. He (Mr. Edgerley) now says that Eyo might have saved many lives. Old Willy Tom died; this caused a very great deal of excitement; an immense number of murders took place; wives, brothers, children, slaves, were killed—awful to think of. Duke Ephraim caused a proclamation to be made in Old Town, that if Willy Tom died, every one should take chop-nut. Such was Mr. Edgerley's recital of the fearful murders which had been committed, and he gave the following names, as these of parties who had been the principal instigators, or perpetrators, of these foul deeds, viz.:—

Ephraim Cobham,
Acobham Akpong Ufuip,
Esau Arsibong,
Akpa Imo,
Arsibong Ukpong,
Efuim Adem,
Arsibong Ataka.

I then addressed Duke Ephraim, on the part which it was very evident he had played in the fearful slaughter; he attempted to screen himself under the plea that he had no power over Old Town.

I used every endeavour to get his and Chiefs' sanction to sign an Additional Article to the Treaty abolishing human sacrifices, dated 15th February, 1851, in which it implied, that if any native of the Old Calabar river, who administered, or allowed to be administered, the "esere," or chop-nut, *alias* poison-nut, all his property be forfeited, and be dealt with as Her Majesty's Government should think fit; this, I soon found it would be impossible to obtain, as the Chiefs, one and all, were opposed to it, and Duke Ephraim was afraid to sign it, if willing, which I very much question.

The poison-nut has taken away, within twenty years, the most able men in the whole country; one and all, with a few exceptions, have died under that ordeal; and the continuance of it will, undoubtedly, eventually lead to most serious and heavy losses to the British merchants who have vessels in that river, as no trade can be carried on without trust, and on the death of a creditor by that ordeal, the trust is lost.

In the late Consul's despatch, dated 27th October, 1851, some important information is given on these customs.

I then stated to King Eyo and Duke Ephraim, that I would give them a list of the parties' names who were implicated in the charge of administering the poison-nut, and gave them until Thursday the 18th, at 10 A.M., to deliver them up to me, when, if not forthcoming, the measures then taken for destroying Old Town would rest on their own heads.

Duke Ephraim again reiterated his former statement—that he had nothing to do with Old Town. I answered him that he issued the proclamation; and if he had no influence there, why do so?

Rev. Mr. Anderson stated, that on a late occasion many of the Duke Town people went to Henshaw Town, at which time the poison-nut was given to four persons; he believed three died and one survived.

Rev. Mr. Edgerley stated, that he had a witness to the issuing of the proclamation of Duke Ephraim's in Old Town; he was a free boy, a native, and if he gave his evidence his life would not be safe, unless the Consul gave him his protection; this was immediately given. Messrs. Waddel and Edgerley then stated, that Duke Ephraim, in his own language, had threatened the life of the witness. Thomas Hogan had also used threatening language. I reprimanded Duke Ephraim very severely, for using such language to a witness, and told him that on any future occasion I would never tolerate such a proceeding. Hogan received the same reprimand.

As they were about to leave, I again addressed Duke Ephraim, and stated that if the murderers (as I could not designate them by any other name) were not given up by the hour appointed, I would show a decided hostility to such crimes as had lately been committed, by burning and destroying Old Town, for so many years the scene of such diabolical outrages against the laws of God and man. He appeared to consider this as an idle threat, and one that would not be executed.

Messrs. Waddel and Edgerley protested against the destruction of the town.

The supercargoes and captains informed me that the criminals being free men, Duke Ephraim would never give them up, although they were in his power.

I again warned both King Eyo and Duke Ephraim of the consequences, should they not hand them over to me, to be dealt with according to the pleasure of Her Majesty's Government.

Duke Ephraim and Chiefs took their leave. King Eyo remained a little time, and, on leaving, received a salute of seven guns.

Arranged with supercargoes for a meeting next day, at 10 o'clock.

Wednesday, 17th.—Supercargoes assembled at 10 o'clock, and handed me a letter (Inclosure No. 19) relative to the detention of natives on board the vessels. There was a difference of opinion on what constituted "maltreatment;" if detaining a native on board ship for debt was such, then they were liable to be fined, as per Treaty. While a native is detained on board a vessel, he is well treated in every respect; he sits down to table with the supercargo; has any wines or liquors he chooses; and lives at a far superior rate than he can on shore. It is an old custom, and one which, if done away with, would seriously endanger the British property now in their hands. The supercargoes stated it was their only resource, after all other means had failed; that the Egbo law was now of no use.

Captain Cuthbertson stated that "Egbo" had been blown on a man, who had trust from him, five or six times; the man laughed at it; and he had not got one drop of oil yet, although "Egbo" was first blown on him thirteen months ago.

I stated to them that such was the Treaty, and I had no power to alter it, but I would forward their statements, and request instructions on the subject.

I beg to inclose copies of my letters to Mr. Edgerley during the day, with his answers thereto (Inclosures Nos. 20 to 25).

Thursday, 18th.—The paddle-box boats of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Antelope," with a number of Kroomen from the merchant-shipping, were sent to Mr. Edgerley this morning.

The supercargoes, King Eyo and Chiefs, Duke Ephraim and Chiefs, assembled on board Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Antelope" at 10 A.M. I put the question to them, "Have you got the 7 men?" They answered, "No." One of the supercargoes informed me he saw two of them in the town the day previous.

Received a letter from the supercargoes (Inclosure No. 26), regarding Old Town.

I then stated to King Eyo and Duke Ephraim, that, as they had failed to deliver up the 7 men who had committed those fearful crimes, and as Old Town

had been for many years the scene of diabolical murders, I would request Lieutenant-Commander Young to destroy it; that I understood the greater number of the inhabitants had already left; but as I had no wish to kill any of the inhabitants, and give all due time, nothing would be done that day, but on the following morning operations would commence.

I then addressed the Duke and Chiefs, and urged them to abandon the ordeal of the poison nut. I assured them they would draw down the censure of Her Majesty's Government if they continued its use; that they should be very thankful to Britain for the many things she had done for them, in endeavouring to advance them in civilization by the aid of missionaries, &c.

I suggested the formation of a Court, of Duke Ephraim, and Chiefs, and Supercargoes, to endeavour to abolish this ordeal of "death," as nine out of ten who go through the trial invariably die. I also requested King Eyo to use his influence in Duke Town.

I also addressed them on the subject of twin-murder. Duke Ephraim and Chiefs at once assented, that no more murders should take place; that they would give up the children to the missionaries, and they would sign "book" for "that." A promise to this effect was drawn out, which they signed, and I inclose the original herewith (Inclosure No. 27). They refused to give up the mother, but stated that no harm would befall her; this was at least one point gained from the Duke Town Chiefs. King Eyo appended his signature, as a matter of course, and to satisfy Duke Ephraim. King Eyo is a most intelligent man, and has recently done away with many of the old, foolish customs; human sacrifice, poison-nut, and twin-murder are done away with in Creek Town. He has a very powerful influence in the whole river, and I have no doubt will endeavour to get the chop-nut abolished in Duke Town.

Received a letter from Mr. Edgerley (Inclosure No. 28).

Friday, 19th.—Steam was got up at 8 A.M., to proceed up the river to Old Town.

I beg to inclose a copy of a requisition I made to Commander Young (Inclosure No. 29).

The question of human sacrifices has now been for some years before the British public; it engaged the serious and devoted attention of the late Consul Beecroft; and I am only too certain that he never would for one moment allow or sanction the use of the poison nut, because it was an old custom or fashion, although Mr. Anderson alleges such in his letter, as having been told him by the natives.

The Treaties entered into on the 18th March, 1848, and the 15th February, 1851, have never been looked to, but violated on every occasion when a Chief or head man died. Such scenes do not take place in the rivers adjacent; and on Tuesday, when I wished them to sign the Additional Article, the Chiefs at once quite boldly refused it, apparently quite determined to live in their sin. This Old Town, where the recent slaughter took place, has been the "jew-jew" town, where the most dreadful crimes have been carried on for many years; the inhabitants have been deaf to all entreaties against it.

The person and property of Mr. Edgerley have been assailed, and the members of his church abused.

It was with all due consideration I weighed the question of what was to be done; it required to be effectual. They refused, *in toto*, to sign the Additional Article to the Treaty, and the Treaties they had signed were violated. I consulted with Lieutenant-Commander Young, and came to the conclusion that, by destroying the town, and not allowing it to be re-erected, that Duke Town would be left alone in the use of the poison-nut, and the scene of such foul atrocities be in future only remembered: it would also be a warning to Duke Ephraim and Chiefs.

The "Antelope" proceeded slowly up the river, and anchored in front of Old Town. All the natives had left; the town was totally deserted; many hundreds of the natives were on the banks of the river. The operations commenced with shot and shell; the shot making a clean breach through the mud walls of the houses. Mr. Watts, Second Master, landed with a party of men, to set fire to the roofs of the houses; Lieutenant-Commander Young and Mr. Johnson followed. The roofs were soon ignited, and the town in flames; being composed of bamboo mats, a thin, dry material, it burnt with great

rapidity. As the walls were still standing, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Watts, with a body of Kroomen, and a guard of seamen and marines, landed at 4 p.m., and pulled them down level with the ground. They returned at 6 p.m., and we proceeded down the river to our anchorage.

I received a letter from the supercargoes (Inclosure No. 30), which I beg to inclose.

Messrs. Edgerley and Anderson stated to me verbally that they considered it a well-merited punishment on the town; but that, as missionaries of the Church, they were bound to protest against such proceedings.

The Mission House, being some distance from the town, was unharmed; some type, which had not been removed previous to the firing, was taken on board the "Antelope" by the Kroomen, and delivered up to Mr. Edgerley.

No lives were lost; the natives having evacuated the town, as I have previously stated.

Received a letter from King Eyo (Inclosure No. 31).

Thus ended the day's proceedings, and the destruction of Old Town. I sincerely hope it will have a salutary effect on the natives of Old Town.

Saturday, 20th.—Addressed letters to King Eyo and Chiefs, and Duke Ephraim and Chiefs, copies of which I beg to inclose (Inclosures Nos. 32 and 33). Weighed anchor at noon, and proceeded for Fernando Po.

Sunday, 21st.—6 A.M., off Cape Bullen; 7.30, anchored in Clarence Cove, when I shortly after landed.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, Bonny.

Gentlemen,

"Antelope," River Bonny, January 5, 1855.

HAVING arrived here in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," Lieutenant Commander Young, for the purpose of enforcing the Treaties established in January 1854, and to settle any disputes that may have arisen therefrom, I request that you will give me written statements of the same.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 34.

The Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, Bonny, to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Bonny River, September 23, 1854.

ON the 4th instant we addressed a letter to the Commodore or senior officer on the station, requesting his presence and assistance here, for the purpose of maintaining the authority of the Royal Court of Equity, established by the late Consul, Mr. Beecroft, as, since his death, the King and Chiefs have become lax in their adherence to the Treaty, and in a recent instance refused to attend the Court when summoned; evidently taking advantage of Mr. Beecroft's death, and supposing, that since that unfortunate circumstance, we have no protection for enforcing the laws as formerly.

We have a despatch from Captain Miller, the Senior Officer, forwarded to us by Her Britannic Majesty's brig "Dolphin," Captain Webber, authorizing and directing us to claim your assistance, as the properly-constituted magistrate. We therefore beg you to render us that assistance so much required, and at as early a period as you can conveniently come up; otherwise we apprehend the affairs of the Court and country will be seriously disturbed, and thereby the

mercantile interest must seriously suffer. We at the same time would suggest to you the necessity and policy of coming in a man-of-war, as, without that, your attendance would not be effectual.

Trusting to see you soon here, we remain, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. WARDE, *Chairman.*

THOS. F. STONE.

B. CAHILL.

J. A. STOWE.

JOHN GLANVILLE.

REUBEN HEMINGWAY.

JAMES FINIGIR.

E. WYLIE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 34.

The Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, Bonny, to Captain Adams.

Sir,

River Bonny, November 22, 1855.

WE the Undersigned, supercargoes of the British merchant-ships now in the Bonny River, beg most respectfully to inform you that the conduct of the King and Chiefs, since the death of the late Consul, John Beecroft, Esq., has been such that we are of opinion they think that the British Government has entirely withdrawn its protection from us. The members of the Court have been hooted, and all but laid violent hands upon, by the populace; they look upon the Court and Treaties with contempt, and violate them whenever it suits their purpose so to do. Should this state of things be allowed to go on, the effect will be most injurious to this large and valuable trade; and we humbly claim your protection, and are of opinion that nothing less than your presence here will have the desired effect, and hope, when the importance of the Bonny trade is taken into account, you will not think we are presumptuous in asking you to come.

(Signed)

E. WYLIE, *Chairman,*

And all the Members of the Court of Equity.

Inclosure 5 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the King and Chiefs of New Calabar.

Gentlemen,

"Antelope," New Calabar, January 9, 1855.

HAVING arrived here in Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, for the purpose of ascertaining if the Commercial Treaty made with you on October 2, 1850, has been fully carried out, and not infringed in any way, I have to request that you will immediately come on board, after which I will visit you on shore.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 34.

Captain Cahill to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

"Loodianah," Bonny River, January 8, 1855.

I BEG to inform you that the brig "Tremont" arrived in New Calabar River on the 30th of December last, but in consequence of King Amacree's absence, without appointing, previous to his departure, any deputy to "break trade," everything has been at a stand-still up to the present date; no trader being permitted to visit any newly arrived vessel until the King himself has been on board.

Under these circumstances I beg you will interfere on my behalf; and am, &c.

(Signed)

B. CAHILL.

Inclosure 7 in No. 34.

The Supercargoes of New Calabar to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

New Calabar River, January 10, 1855.

WE the Undersigned, supercargoes of British merchant-ships in the New Calabar river, beg to draw your attention to the serious loss we experience from the natives altering the shape and dimensions of our trade casks; viz., the cask we give out to them is an ordinary sized 40-inch puncheon, measuring 42 inches long, 40 inches across the head, and 45 inches in the bilge; this sized cask we do not obtain from them in return. What we suggest is, that in four months from this date it shall be deemed illegal for any supercargo to receive from a native trader an irregular trade puncheon; that the trade puncheon be a regular 40-inch cask; and that in order not to press too hard upon the native trader, he may have the option of starting into a trade cask at the cask-house, if he has any suspicion that his cask is not up to the mark.

In order to enforce the above, we suggest that a fine or penalty be inflicted upon all who infringe these regulations; say of one puncheon for a native trader making use of, and two puncheons for any white trader receiving, such irregular cask.

We also suggest, that in the event of any ship or vessel arriving in this river for the purpose of trade, and the King being absent, the trader or supercargo shall be at perfect liberty to commence trading, and any obstruction or other prevention occurring to prevent such trading, no matter under what circumstances, a fine of five trade puncheons of oil shall be inflicted upon the King and Chiefs of this river.

And we further beg to suggest, that after Her Britannic Majesty's Consul's first visit to any of these rivers, and until the whole of his business shall have been transacted and settled, no white trader be allowed to proceed on shore on his own business, or in a private manner, without first asking and obtaining the permission of Her Majesty's Consul, under penalty of a fine of one puncheon of oil for each offence.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

J. H. S. WITT.

E. WYLIE.

P. W. PHYTHIAN.

JAMES FINIGIR.

F. GRANT.

JOHN GLANVILLE.

JNO. LA FRENCH.

B. CAHILL.

Inclosure 8 in No. 34.

Additional Articles to the Commercial Treaty with the King and Chiefs of the New Calabar River, dated October 2, 1850.

ARTICLE I.

THAT in four months from this date it be deemed illegal for any supercargo to receive from a trader an irregular trade-puncheon; that the trade-puncheon be a regular 40-inch; and that, in order not to press too hard upon the trader, he may have the option of starting into a trade-cask, at the Cask-house, if he has any suspicion that the cask is not up to the mark.

ARTICLE II.

That any breach of the above Article shall be punished as follows:—Any native making use of or offering such an irregular cask for sale shall be fined one puncheon of palm oil, and any white trader receiving or purchasing oil in such irregular cask be fined two puncheons of oil.

ARTICLE III.

In the event of any ship or vessel arriving in this river for the purpose of trade, and the King being absent, the supercargo or trader shall be at perfect liberty to commence trading, and any obstruction or other prevention occurring to prevent such trading, no matter under what circumstances, a fine of five trade-puncheons of palm oil shall be inflicted upon the King and Chiefs of this river.

ARTICLE IV.

On the arrival of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in the river, and until the whole of his business be transacted, no white trader be allowed to proceed on shore, on his own business or in a private manner, without first requesting and obtaining permission of Her Majesty's Consul, under the penalty of one puncheon of palm oil for each offence.

Given under our hands on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," in the New Calabar river, this tenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five years.

(Signed) King ^{his} X Amacree.
mark.

^{his} Will X Barboy.
mark.

^{his} Harry X Brade.
mark.

^{his} Emanuel X
mark.

^{his} Prince X Will.
mark.

^{his} West X India.
mark.

^{his} Big X Harry.
mark.

^{his} Foobra X Amacree.
mark.

^{his} Tiger X Amacree.
mark.

^{his} Duke X Monmouth.
mark.

^{his} George X Goodhead.
mark.

(Signed) George ^{his} X Amacree.
mark.

^{his} Young X Brigg.
mark.

^{his} Steadfast X Jack.
mark.

^{his} Yellow X Duke.
mark.

^{his} George X Will.
mark.

^{his} Don X Pedro.
mark.

^{his} Janza X
mark.

^{his} Tom X Lawson.
mark.

^{his} War X Mate.
mark.

^{his} Jack X Reece.
mark.

^{his} Young X Anne.
mark.

Signed in our presence :

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's*
Acting Consul.

Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic*
Majesty's Consul.

C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her*
Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."

Jno. La French, "*Heroine.*"

J. H. S. Witt.

James Finigir.

P. W. Phythian.

B. Cahill.

John Glanville.

F. Grant.

E. Wylie.

Inclosure 9 in No. 34.

Certificate.

To all whom it may concern.

I, JAMES WILLIAM BISHOP LYNLAGER, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul for the Bight of Biafra, do hereby certify that at a Court held at the Court-house established in this river, on Thursday, 11th January, 1855, by myself, the Supercargoes, King, and Chiefs, it was unanimously resolved and agreed upon, that in consideration of the debts of ex-King Pepple, amounting to 72 puncheons of good palm oil, being paid to the respective creditors by Fred Pepple, that he, the said Fred Pepple, shall keep and retain, for his own use and purpose, any property he may be in possession of belonging to the ex-King Pepple.

And I hereby grant this public instrument, under my hand, that such property shall become the lawful property of Fred Pepple, on these debts being liquidated by him.

Given under my hand on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," in the River Bonny, this 12th day of January, 1855.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.

Inclosure 10 in No. 34.

Certificate.

To all whom it may concern.

I, JAMES WILLIAM BISHOP LYNLAGER, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul for the Bight of Biafra, do hereby authorize and empower King Dapho, of the River Bonny, to seize upon and destroy any vessel that may enter his territories for the purpose of dealing in slaves; also to seize and destroy any cargo, stores, &c., that may be on board: he, the said King Dapho using every precaution in first ascertaining, from the Chairman and Members of the Royal Court of Equity, that such vessel is for the purpose of purchasing slaves.

Given under my hand, at the Bonny river, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," this 12th day of January, 1855.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.
C. H. YOUNG,
Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."

Inclosure 11 in No. 34.

Certificate.

"Antelope," River Bonny, January 13, 1855.

WHEREAS Fred Pepple has now become the responsible party for the debts owing by the ex-King Pepple, I have now to request that all supercargoes will pay King Dapho his just amount of come.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.

Inclosure 12 in No. 34.

*Acting Consul Lynslager to the Missionaries of the Church of Scotland,
Old Calabar.*

Gentlemen,

"Antelope," Old Calabar River, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have arrived in this river in Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, for the purpose of investigating any differences that may have arisen between British subjects and the natives of this river.

In the event of your having any grievances, I have to request that you will give me a written statement of the same.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 13 in No. 34.

*The Supercargoes of Old Calabar to Acting Consul Lynslager.**Old Calabar River, January 15, 1855.*

WE, the undersigned masters and supercargoes of vessels, trading in the Old Calabar river, think it our duty, as desired by Her Britannic Majesty's late Consul, the late Mr. Beecroft, together with the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Archer," J. N. Strange, Esq., to inform you that the Treaty which was entered into by the above gentlemen and ourselves, on the one part, and by the King, Chiefs, and natives of Old Calabar, on the other part, and bearing date February 15, 1851 (the particular clauses alluded to are stated below), has been violated; inasmuch as, at the death of a Chief in February last year, many human lives were sacrificed, and other inhuman outrages committed.

The clauses of the above-named Treaty referred to are the VIth and VIIth, namely:—

Clause VI. "That the law abolishing human sacrifices be hereby confirmed.

Clause VII. "That, in the event of the infringement of any Article of this Treaty, or of the law abolishing human sacrifices, application for redress shall be made by the injured party to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, through any British resident on the spot."

In compliance with the above, we deem it our duty to lay this before you; as, should these violations and outrages go unredressed, they will, most undoubtedly, lead to others more aggravated, if possible.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

CHAS. CALVERT.
PETER CROMPTON.
J. BAAK, Esq.
EDWARD DAVIES.
JOS. CUTHBERTSON.
GEORGE ALEXR. LEWIS.
WM. WOODFINE.
JOHN HOLMES.
J. L. W. G. STERN.
JAMES GOPPEY.

Inclosure 14 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Duke Ephraim and Chiefs of Old Calabar.

Gentlemen,

"Antelope," Old Calabar, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to request your presence on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, to-morrow

at noon, to meet King Eyo and Chiefs, and the supercargoes in the river, when some matters of great importance, for the welfare of your country, will be brought under your notice.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 15 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Supercargoes of Old Calabar.

Gentlemen, "Antelope," Old Calabar River, January 15, 1855.

I BEG leave to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this day, informing me of the violation of the Treaty for the abolition of human sacrifices.

In reply thereto, I have to request your presence on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, at 12 o'clock to-morrow, the 16th instant, when your statement will be fully investigated.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 16 in No. 34.

The Rev. W. Anderson to Acting Consul Lynslager.

(Extract.) Mission House, Duke Town, Janurry 15, 1855.

I WAS this morning favoured with your circular to the Scottish Missionaries in Old Calabar, and, having perused it, forwarded it to my brethren.

I expect to meet with them to-morrow morning, and it is not unlikely that we may, collectively, have some matters to lay before you.

I have not, at present, any private or personal complaint to prefer against any of the natives of Old Calabar.

I should rejoice were you to aid in forwarding the work of civilization among them by your condemnation of the horrid practices of twin-murder, and the ordeal of the poison-nut, both of which still prevail. Three persons died under the ordeal at Henshaw Town on a Sabbath-day a few weeks ago; and, so late as the 6th instant, Duke Ephraim administered the ordeal of the nut to several persons, of whom it is reported that four died. I am the more particular in stating these things because some of the natives say that the late Consul Beecroft allowed them to continue the use of the "esere" (poison bean), it being "an old fashion" among them. They must have misapprehended some statement of his; and I humbly suggest that an effectual way of disabusing their minds of the mistake, would be for you to use your powerful influence against the practices referred to.

Sincerely wishing that your visit to this country may be beneficial to all interested, I am, &c.

Inclosure 17 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Rev. W. Anderson.

(Extract.) "Antelope," Old Calabar, January 16, 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday, in which you call my attention to the horrid practices of twin murder, the ordeal of the poison nut, and human sacrifices, which are still carried on in this country.

In reply I beg to inform you that a meeting will be held on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope" this day at noon, at which King Eyo and Chiefs, Duke Ephraim and Chiefs, and the supercargoes, are expected to attend.

The subject of human sacrifices will be then brought forward.

Inclosure 18 in No. 34.

The Rev. S. Edgerley to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Town, Old Calabar, January 16, 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your courteous communication to the Scottish Missionaries, and in reply beg to call your attention to the following statements :—

1. That in defiance of the engagements made by the officials of Calabar with the Europeans trading and resident in the river, that human sacrifices and murders should be abolished, Duke Ephraim and the gentlemen of Duke Town caused a proclamation to be made at Old Town, that if Willy Tom, the King of the town, died, all the inhabitants should be compelled to take the poison nut.

2. That Willy Tom died, and fearful murders of about fifty individuals was the result.

3. That this breach of good faith has never been redressed by any of the authorities of the country, and that the murderers are allowed to go at large with impunity.

4. That an attempt at intimidation or violence was made by some sixty armed men, inhabitants of Old Town, on my person and premises, which has never been redressed by the authorities of the town or country.

5. That a free person, a member of our Church, was knocked down in Old Town, and his clothes torn off his back, because he was not one of the Egbo fraternity, and is an inmate of my family.

6. That I hold possession of a half-free Calabar man, named Atem Fonisu, a refugee, whose life is devoted to destruction to the manes of the deceased King, Willy Tom, and for no crime whatever, and in defiance of the engagements to abolish human sacrifices.

7. That I have made out manumission papers, together with other individuals, of certain refugees and others who have been manumitted by us, and request the sanction and recognition of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to their unconditional freedom.

8. That one of the principal individuals implicated, amongst others, is named Ephraim Cobham, the representative of the family of the deceased Willy Tom.

9. That I have no protection from any party in the country for any violence or outrage, and therefore, as a British subject, most respectfully claim the protection of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for this river.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

SAMUEL EDGERLEY,

Scottish Missionary.

Inclosure 19 in No. 34.

The Supercargoes of Old Calabar to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Old Calabar River, January 17, 1855.

WE, the Undersigned, being present and a party to the establishing of a Treaty between Her Majesty's late Consul, ourselves, and others, on the one part; and the King, Chiefs, and traders of Old Calabar, on the other part; for the better regulating and conducting business between the two Contracting Parties, do hereby declare :—

That, had we at that time understood that detaining a native on board a ship for debt, or other unfair practices, could have been understood, interpreted, or construed in any way as "maltreatment" (see Article VIII of said Treaty), we should certainly not have agreed to it; when of course that Article would not have been carried, as every Article in that Treaty was carried by the "majority."

And further, we hereby declare most solemnly, that, should it henceforth be forbidden to us to detain a native on board ship upon the before-mentioned circumstances, namely, for debts or other unfair dealings, we are utterly incapable of obtaining trust, which is now due to a considerable extent, and which, taken at valuation according to the present price of palm-oil, amounts to upwards of 250,000*l*.

We are, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD DAVIES, "*Golden Age*."
CHAS. CALVERT, "*Calabar*."
J. BAAK, Esq.
JOS. CUTHBERTSON.
PETER CROMPTON.

Inclosure 20 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Rev. S. Edgerley.

Sir,

"*Antelope*," Old Calabar, January 17, 1855.

I HAVE to inform you that, if the instigators of the barbarous and foul murders lately committed in Old Town are not handed over to me by 10 o'clock to-morrow forenoon, the town will be destroyed.

I therefore give you notice, that you may remove your property previous to the commencement of these operations.

Should you require any assistance, please to inform me.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 21 in No. 34.

The Rev. S. Edgerley to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Town, United Presbyterian Mission Station,
January 17, 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, intimating your intention of destroying Old Town "by 10 o'clock to-morrow" morning, "if the instigators of the barbarous and foul murders" are not handed over to you by that hour, &c.

In reply, I beg to state that I possess neither the power nor influence of effecting the delivering up to you either of the instigators or the perpetrators of the late horrible murders, but am fully persuaded that the authorities of the country possess the power of seizing some of them who are now prowling about the town, although the inhabitants generally have evacuated the place last night, with their goods and chattels.

As regards the removal of the Mission property and my own, I am entirely without the means of accomplishing it in so very limited a period; and whilst I most respectfully, but most unequivocally, protest against so summary and extreme a procedure, would feel very grateful by your affording me the assistance I require in the event of your continued determination to destroy the town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL EDGERLEY,
Scottish Missionary.

Inclosure 22 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Rev. S. Edgerley.

Sir,

"Antelope," Old Calabar, January 17, 1855.

IN reply to your letter of this date, I have to inform you again that, unless the instigators or perpetrators of the murders lately committed in Old Town are handed over to me by 10 o'clock to-morrow, Old Town will be destroyed.

Lieutenant-Commander Young has been kind enough to grant the use of the paddle-box boats of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," and Kroomen will be sent with them to-morrow morning to enable you to remove your property.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 23 in No. 34.

The Rev. S. Edgerley to Acting Consul Lynslager.

*Old Town, United Presbyterian Mission Premises,
January 17, 1855.*

Sir,

I AM in possession of your second letter of this date, and, in reply, beg to state that I have had recourse to all the measures within my province for the fulfilment of the conditions on which you will spare Old Calabar.

I have not the remotest idea that you will obtain possession of the persons implicated in the late horrible sacrifices at this town; indeed, the whole country is, to a considerable extent, implicated.

With my reiterated protest against the extreme measures you propose to effect, and my expressions of gratitude to Lieutenant-Commander Young for his kind offer of service on this trying occasion, I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL EDGERLEY,
Scottish Missionary.

Inclosure 24 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Rev. S. Edgerley.

Sir,

"Antelope," Old Calabar, January 17, 1855.

YOUR second letter of this day's date has just reached me, and I note its contents.

If you wish any assistance from me to-morrow morning, please to inform me at once.

I never anticipated for one moment that you would be competent to deliver up the criminals. If you are under that impression, it is a wrong one.

On your making a requisition for the paddle-box boats and Kroomen, they will be at your service at 6 A.M.

Operations commence on Old Town, to-morrow at noon.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 25 in No. 34.

*The Rev. S. Edgerley to Acting Consul Lynslager.**Old Town, United Presbyterian Mission House,
January 17, 1855.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your third letter of this date, touching your intention of destroying Old Town at noon to-morrow, and have no further circumstances or pleas to offer in mitigation of the contemplated visitation.

I thank you for the offer of assistance; and now beg to state that the natives will be sure to retaliate upon the Mission property, &c., unless you can obtain guarantees of safety from the native authorities for our persons and property, or a guard to protect us from some of the shipping.

It will be impossible to remove all the property on these premises for a week or more, consisting, as it does, of an amount of capital in printing materials, barter goods, household furniture, &c.; but, of course, I now make application through you for aid, in the loan of boats and men, to transport such goods as can be removed to-morrow.

With expressions of gratitude for your kind suggestions, I have, &c.

(Signed)

SAMUEL EDGERLEY,

Scottish Missionary.

Inclosure 26 in No. 34.

The Supercargoes of Old Calabar to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Calabar River, January 18, 1855.

WE, the undersigned masters and supercargoes of British vessels trading in this river, do hereby certify upon honour that the village named Old Town in this river has been for many years the scene of diabolical murders and poisoning by the chop-nut, *alias* poison-nut. There is no trade whatever carried on in it; and we are fully of opinion that, from the great number of natives who were murdered or poisoned at the death of the late Chief Willy Tom, such scenes will never cease until some very strong and decisive measures are taken.

And we are further of opinion that the total destruction of that place will be of great benefit to the other towns, to the advancement of civilisation, and be a means of deterring them from the use of the poison-nut and such foul murders—the inhabitants of that village (Old Town) having defied us in our endeavours to prevent such scenes of bloodshed.

Trusting that some energetic measures will be taken before you leave this river, we are, &c.

(Signed)

CHAS. CALVERT.
EDWARD DAVIES.
JOS. CUTHBERTSON.
PETER CROMPTON.
JOHN STEANE MORGAN.
GEORGE ALEXR. LEWIS.
J. BAAK, Esq.
JOHN HOLMES.
WM. WOODFINE.

Inclosure 27 in No. 34.

Agreement of Duke Ephraim and other Chiefs to abolish Twin Murders.

IT is hereby solemnly promised and agreed to by us, that if any female belonging to the Old Calabar river shall, from or after this date, be delivered of twin children, the children shall be given into the care of the Scottish missionaries resident in the river, for the purpose of being forwarded to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," in the Old Calabar river, this eighteenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five years.

(Signed) King Eyo Honesty.

his
Duke X Ephraim.

mark.
Mr. Young Eyamba.

Thomas Hogan.

his
Ephraim X Duke.

mark.

(Signed) his
John X Archibong.

mark.

his
Egbo X Tom.

mark.

his
Black X Davies.

mark.

Signed, date and day as mentioned above, before us :

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.*

Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*

C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*

H. Morgan, *Supercargo, "Lady Head."*

J. S. W. Beecroft, *ship "Lady Head."*

Jos. Cuthbertson, *"Africa."*

Edward Davies, *"Golden Age."*

Chas. Calvert, *"Calabar."*

George Alexr. Lewis.

Peter Crompton, *"Sarah."*

Wm. Woodfine, *"Abeana."*

Inclosure 28 in No. 34.

The Rev. S. Edgerley to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Duke Town Mission Premises,

Thursday Evening, January 18, 1855.

Sir,

I BEG to inform you that I have been arduously engaged the whole day, with the assistance of two brother missionaries, three white people from one of the ships, my wife and daughter, and at least a dozen natives residing on the Mission premises at Old Town, packing up and delivering to the boats sent to my assistance by Lieutenant-Commander Young, of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," and gentlemen of the mercantile service, the greatest portion of my annual supplies, which has been attended with some damage in their removal to this station.

I have been necessitated to remove part of my family from thence late this afternoon, and was unable to avail myself of the further use of the boats to-day, as we were too much fatigued and unwell.

There now remains on the Mission premises at Old Town all my household furniture, which, if you will favour me with further time and assistance, I will endeavour to remove to-morrow.

I presume I need scarcely say that in the event of the Mission premises at Old Town unfortunately, by accident, sharing in the fate of the devoted town, the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland will have a claim on the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL EDGERLEY,
Scottish Missionary.

Inclosure 29 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Lieutenant-Commander Young.

Sir,

"Antelope," Old Calabar River, January 19, 1855.

DUKE EPHRAIM and Chiefs of this river having failed to deliver up to me the perpetrators of the murders lately committed in Old Town, by which about fifty individuals lost their lives, and having received letters from the supercargoes and missionaries in the river, relating these horrible deeds, and calling on me for redress, I have come to the resolution that to put an end, at once and for ever, to these crimes, it is absolutely necessary to destroy the town.

The natives have received sufficient notice of my intentions.

I therefore beg to request that you will, with Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope," under your command, destroy that town with shot and shell.

Copies of the documents before mentioned will be handed over to you.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNSLAGER.

Inclosure 30 in No. 34.

The Supercargoes of Old Calabar to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Calabar River, January 19, 1855.

AS the representatives of British interests in this river at the present time, we beg most respectfully to return you our best thanks for carrying out the only means that could possibly be taken for the prevention of such inhuman atrocities as have lately been carried on in Old Town, viz., by totally destroying that place.

We feel perfectly satisfied that these barbarous customs have this day received a check, which, if applied years ago, such barbarities, we fully believe, would not now be in existence, or at least not to the fearful extent they have lately reached.

In conclusion, allow us again to return you our most unqualified thanks for the very strong demonstration which has this day been shown against such dreadful practices.

With every grateful feeling, we are, &c

(Signed)

CHAS. CALVERT.
EDWARD DAVIES.
JOS. CUTHBERTSON.
PETER CROMPTON.
JOHN STEANE MORGAN.
GEORGE ALEXR. LEWIS.
J. BAAK, Esq.
WM. WOODFINE.
JOHN HOLMES.

Inclosure 31 in No. 34.

King Eyo Honesty to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Creek Town, Old Calabar, January 19, 1855.

IN reply to the question you put to me yesterday morning, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," Lieutenant Young Commanding, if any means could be adopted by the supercargoes trading in the Old Calabar river, to collect in the debts due to them, other than the old custom of detaining a gentleman trader on board their ships, a custom which has existed from time immemorial;

I do now declare that I do not know of any other means than that above

mentioned; and I also declare that I have no power to compel men to pay their debts, by putting in force the Egbo Law, as now existing, for Creek Town.

I am, &c.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY.

Witness:

(Signed) C. H. YOUNG, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*

Inclosure 32 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to King Eyo Honesty and the Chiefs of Old Calabar.

Gentlemen, "Antelope," Old Calabar, January 20, 1855.

I BEG leave to inform you that I now hold you responsible for the safety of the persons and property of—

Mr. Samuel Edgerley,
Mrs. Samuel Edgerley,
Miss Edgerley,

and of any and all of their male and female domestics, or other native residents within their household. Should any act of oppression or injustice be shown towards them, it will be severely punished.

I have further to inform you that you will prevent any houses being erected in Old Town, under the penalty of incurring the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government

I have to request you will make known the contents of this to your people, and all others concerned.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 33 in No. 34.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Duke Ephraim and the Chiefs of Old Calabar.

Gentlemen, "Antelope," Old Calabar, January 20, 1855.

I BEG leave to inform you that I now hold you responsible for the safety of the persons and property of—

Mr. Samuel Edgerley,
Mrs. Samuel Edgerley,
Miss Edgerley,

and of any and all of their male and female domestics, or other native residents within their household. Should any act of oppression or injustice be shown towards them, it will be severely punished.

I have further to inform you that you will prevent any houses being erected in Old Town, under the penalty of incurring the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government.

I sincerely hope that the destruction of Old Town yesterday will have a very beneficial effect on you and your people, and be the means of inducing you to give up the poison-nut; and I trust you will be prepared to entirely abolish it on the next visit of a British man-of-war.

I have to request you will make known the contents of this to your people, and all others concerned.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 35.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to advise your Lordship of my return from the River Cameroons and the Island of Bimbia.

I beg leave to state that I am totally unable to furnish your Lordship with the full details of my proceedings at present, but the whole will be forwarded per next mail-packet.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

No. 36.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, the conclusion of my Journal of Proceedings in the rivers in this Consular jurisdiction.

I trust that the circumstances under which a fire of a few minutes' duration was carried out on the Boobee, or Pirate Island, will be such as to meet your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

Journal of Proceedings in the Rivers Bonny, New Calabar, and Old Calabar, &c., (continued).

Sunday, January 28, 1855.—GOT under weigh from Clarence Cove, as 6:30 A.M., in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, for Cameroons. Anchored between Acqua and Bell Towns at 2:30 P.M. Received a visit from several of the supercargoes, who informed me that there was great excitement among the natives, in consequence of the death of Ned Acqua, as reported to me in their letter of the 20th instant, which I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 2).

They handed me a letter relative to King Bell (Inclosure No. 3), stating that he had been endeavouring to incite the people of Acqua Town to massacre the white men, and seize the shipping. I arranged for a meeting to be held next morning, when I would enter into an investigation.

Monday, 29th.—Wrote to King Acqua and Chiefs, requesting they would come on board Her Majesty's ship "Antelope," at 10 o'clock. Received a letter from King Acqua (Inclosure No. 4).

Supercargoes assembled at 10 A.M., but it was past noon ere King Acqua, Dido Acqua, Lawton Acqua, and a few others, assembled; they all bore a very sullen, determined look. I stated that I was very sorry that such a serious event had taken place among them; but I could not venture to give any opinion on the case, until I heard the evidence. I beg to inclose copies of the statements (Inclosure No. 5) made before me. The inquiry was postponed till next day, in consequence of two men who were in the canoe not being present.

Tuesday, 30th.—King and Chiefs, and supercargoes assembled, when the inquiry was resumed. I beg to inclose copies of the statements made (Inclosure No. 6).

I also beg leave to inclose a paragraph from a despatch (Inclosure No. 7), addressed to the late Consul by the Earl of Malmesbury, dated October 13, 1852, when a similar case occurred in the same river.

On fully considering this case, I came to the conclusion that my only resource was to send Mr. Walker and the witnesses to Sierra Leone. The

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natives appeared not to approve of this, but wished that I would order his execution, and give them blood for blood. I stated to them I had no power whatever to do so; that in Sierra Leone, an English Colony, every justice would be done. I then admonished them on seizing any property belonging to a British subject, or maltreating any person belonging to a British vessel. They said they were all willing to "sign book" for all their safety, but wished a "dash" or present from all the vessels. I gave them one cask of rum, and fourteen pieces of cloth, when they "signed book," as per Inclosure No. 8.

Wednesday, 31st.—Received a visit from King Acqua, who stated it would be necessary for him to proceed to Sierra Leone with the witnesses, who were afraid of not being allowed to return. I promised that he would be allowed a passage. Received a letter from Ned Dido (Inclosure No. 9); and, shortly after, Ned and Charley Dido came on board. Arranged to enter into Ned's palaver after I had seen King Bell (who had just returned, having run away on my arrival in the river), to whom I had just written that I expected himself, son, and Chiefs on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," next day, at 11 o'clock forenoon. Promised to pay a visit to Acqua Town next morning.

Thursday, February 1st.—At 9 A.M. all the supercargoes assembled on board, and, accompanied by Lieutenant-Commander Young, we proceeded to Acqua Town, under a salute of seven guns. After some delay the King and Chiefs mustered, and I addressed them, advising them in every case of misunderstanding to appeal to Her Majesty's Consul, when they might rest assured of receiving justice; but if they attempted to destroy British lives and property, they would receive due punishment. They stated they would obey my advice, and immediately write me on any such arising. We then took our leave. At 11 A.M. King Bell, son, and Chiefs came on board. Preso Bell, the Chief of Hickory Town, accompanied them; he is a very intelligent man, very far superior to King Bell, and in every instance acts honestly with the white trader. If King Bell would act on his advice, there would be far fewer complaints about him. Read the supercargoes letter to King Bell; he denied the statement as to inciting the people of Acqua Town. He stated, that after Ned Acqua's death, King Acqua came to him, it being their usual custom, on the death of a Chief, to go to his house, and "cry" (which means to drink rum, keep up an irregular firing of musketry, and make a dreadful noise); that his people went to Acqua Town for the purpose of crying, which the supercargoes had mistaken for an offensive demonstration. Knowing his character thoroughly, and fully believing his statement to be an untruth, I reprimanded him severely.

I then entered into the next charge against him, in his furnishing Mr. Main, supercargo of the brig "Mary," of Liverpool (who was charged with purchasing casks lent to the natives by the different supercargoes in the river), with a pilot, when the supercargoes requested him not to do so, until my arrival to investigate the case. King Bell immediately said: "Suppose I stop ship for my beach, palaver no go come up." He also said, if any supercargo could prove that any cask or packs had been stolen from the cask-houses on his beach, he would pay for them. The supercargoes who had vessels laying off his beach, said they had never missed any casks or packs. It appeared that the casks that Mr. Main had purchased, were the property of Messrs. Horsfall, of Liverpool.

I informed King Bell that under the circumstances he had acted wrong, and especially when he was aware I would be in the river in a few days. He pleaded he had "no book" or written document to justify him.

Mr. Main having left the river some days previous to my arrival, I could not enter into the case.

The supercargoes complained much of the detention they were compelled to undergo, in consequence of King Bell and his people not paying their trust; this has been a complaint in that river, and more especially Bell Town, for years; but on some late occasions supercargoes have been greatly abused, on merely asking what time they would be paid. Vessels are thus detained for months; the lives of the crews endangered; and to the serious loss of the owners.

I spoke to King Bell on this point seriously, and informed him that should such conduct on his part be persisted in, he would most assuredly be deposed, and then he would be ruined.

He stated, Captain Tripp, of the brig "Mohawk," of Bristol, was the first in turn, that he would pay his trust in two months, and all the others, in rotation, in four months; if he failed in doing so he was willing to be deposed,

and would sign a document to that effect, which was drawn out. I inclose the original herewith (Inclosure No. 10). He took his departure a little after this, apparently impressed with what he had heard. King Acqua, on leaving, received a salute of five guns.

Friday, 2nd.—King Acqua and Chiefs, King Bell and Chiefs, Preso Bell, Ned and Charley Dido, assembled at 10 A.M. on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."

The premature use of fire-arms by the natives, in their own palavers, has on many occasions caused a complete stagnation of the trade in the river, to the heavy loss of the merchant-shipping and the natives themselves.

I reasoned with them on the folly of such transactions, and they appeared to see that they were acting against their own interest.

I drew out a document, which they all signed. I beg to inclose the original (Inclosure No. 11).

I consider it will in future deter them, as exclusion from the list of traders is almost utter ruin.

Ned Dido, having been the first wrong-doer in a late encounter in which fire-arms were used, when one or more men were killed or wounded, agreed to pay for the loss, to the country-people, of the man or men, and have the affair finally settled. A document was drawn out and signed by Ned; the original I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 12).

Preso Bell, on leaving, received a salute of three guns.

After dinner the supercargoes reassembled, and at 5.15 P.M. I left, accompanied by Lieutenant-Commander Young, under a salute of seven guns, for Preso Bell's town. It is by far the best town in any of the rivers I have yet been in. Very clean, wide, sanded streets; of a great length, some of them. The houses are principally built of mud, and are built so regular as to have an imposing appearance. Preso's palace is a wooden erection, remarkably well furnished. After the natives had gone through the war-dance, we returned to Her Majesty's ship "Antelope."

Saturday, 3rd.—Issued orders to Mr. Walker (who had been winding up his affairs on board the hulk "Alexander Grant," with J. S. Snape, Esq., resident agent in Fernando Po for Messrs. Horsfall and Sons) to embark in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope" next morning. Issued similar orders to King Acqua and his witnesses. Received a farewell visit from Preso Bell and several of the other Chiefs. Received a letter from the supercargoes, the original of which I beg leave to inclose (Inclosure No. 13).

Sunday, 4th.—Mr. Walker, his clerk, and six Kroomen, King Acqua, and his witnesses, embarked. At 8 A.M. supercargoes came on board to bid farewell. Got under way, and proceeded slowly down the river. 5.15 P.M., anchored off Cape Cameroons for the night.

Monday, 5th.—6 A.M., got under way, and proceeded for Bimbia. Mr. Johnson, the second master, went in to sound the entrance. Anchored, at 3 P.M., in sight of King William's house and town. Dick Merchant came off to see me. I was informed that King William, being afraid, had gone into the bush, and that his wives were removing his property from his house. This has been the case on several occasions; he has been terrified at the sight of a man-of-war entering his place. I went on shore, and in a short time he made his appearance. I asked him why he was afraid of a man-of-war, and gave him a reprimand for his foolishness.

He complained much of the conduct of the Boobee people, who inhabited an island formerly called "Pirates' Isle," which was within his territories, but who had thrown off their allegiance and resumed the employment of their ancestors, namely, piracy. His own canoes had to pass this island when on their way to market, when, in several instances, goods, canoes, and slaves had been detained. He stated, if a vessel called there for the purpose of purchasing and embarking slaves, he would be unable to prevent them; and then, he said, "Queen for England go make palaver, because I break book;" meaning the Slave Trade Treaty.

I stated that I would proceed to that place next morning, and see the Chief. I then left him, and returned on board.

Tuesday, 6th.—At 8 A.M. weighed, and proceeded for the Boobee island, accompanied by Dick Merchant. 9.30 A.M., anchored at the back part of the island, with only a few miserable mud huts in view. We observed several of the

natives armed. 10:30, Mr. Watts, second master, and Dick Merchant, proceeded on shore with a flag of truce flying in the boat. Dick Merchant communicated with the Chief, and requested him to come on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope." He said he would. Shortly after, a canoe with two slaves and one old man came off; not the Chief, however. I informed him that I wished the Chief to come and see me; that King William of Bimbia was the rightful King from Bimbia to Rumby, and the Chief must acknowledge this, return the slaves, goods, and canoes he had unlawfully detained, and pay a fine for such detention. I allowed them two hours to decide. They returned to the beach; the time expired, and they made no signs of returning.

I was unwilling to have recourse to extreme measures, but, on considering the circumstances, there was no alternative.

Some further time elapsed, when I was requested by Lieutenant-Commander Young, as per Inclosure No. 14, to open fire on the town. This was done, but only for a short period, as they got a temporary flag-staff and hung on it a piece of white and red cloth. As this was apparently submission, the firing ceased.

Lieutenant-Commander Young went on shore in his boat, with a flag of truce. Dick Merchant followed in his canoe, when he received 4 slaves and 4 canoes which had been detained. There was little or no damage done to the mud walls, but I am sorry to state it was with the loss of one man on their part. The Chief promised to come off next morning.

Wednesday, 7th.—At daylight, a flag of truce flying in the town. At 9 A.M. Dick Merchant returned to the beach, and, shortly, the Chief and one Headman came off with him. He was quite submissive, acknowledged his error, and would never rebel again. He signed a document, the original of which I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 15). I allowed him to go without any fine being inflicted. He then returned to his town. We got under way, and proceeded for Bimbia. Went on shore, accompanied by Mr. Johnson, second master, and Mr. Simpson, my Secretary, who has accompanied me to all the rivers I have visited. King William soon made his appearance, and I requested him to sign a document that neither he nor his people would molest the Boobees; that all present palavers were settled, and future ones to be referred to Her Majesty's Consul. I beg to inclose the original herewith (Inclosure No. 16). A few minor palavers among themselves I arranged, and left. Got under way at 3 P.M., and proceeded for Clarence, Fernando Po. Anchored at 8:30 P.M., when I landed.

Thursday, 8th.—Took the deposition of Robert Anthony Taylor, which I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 17).

Saturday, 10th.—King Acqua visited me this morning, and stated that he was afraid to proceed to Sierra Leone, and his witnesses also refused to go. He had received pecuniary offers, which was the usual mode of settling such affairs in his country, and his Chiefs and people would, he thought, be more satisfied if it was arranged that way. He requested me to allow him to proceed to Cameroons, and he would return in the first conveyance with their decision.

I stated that I would detain Mr. Walker until his return: that it was of no use to send him unless the witnesses accompanied him. King Acqua promised to return as soon as possible.

Sunday, 11th.—King Acqua left in the mail-packet "Retriever" this morning for Cameroons.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

The Supercargoes in the River Cameroons to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

River Cameroons, January 20, 1855.

THIS day, about noon, Mr. Walker, resident agent for Messrs. Horsfall and Sons, was in pursuit of a canoe belonging to Lawton and Ned Acqua, traders of Acqua Town, they being indebted to the concern to a large amount and of long standing. When attempting to seize the canoe with his Kroomen,

guns were immediately pointed at Mr. Walker by several in the canoe, one being in the hands of Ned Acqua. Mr. Walker, having his double-barrelled fowling-piece in the boat, at once, when he saw the warlike demonstration, fired, and Ned Acqua was mortally wounded.

In the disturbed state of the river at the unfortunate occurrence, and thinking that lives and property are quite unsafe, we, the Undersigned, make this appeal to you for immediate assistance in the shape of a man-of-war, to endeavour to settle between the contending parties.

(Signed)

W. H. ASHMALL.
JOHN BOWERBANK.
HARRY ANTHONY.
E. HARRIS.
F. W. STAFFORD.
JOS. H. TRIPP.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

The Supercargoes in the Cameroons River to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Cameroons River, January 23, 1855.

WE, the undersigned agents and supercargoes of the vessels in the Cameroons, having received information from various quarters, which we believe is to be fully relied upon, that King Bell has, by his presence and counsel, been endeavouring to incite King Acqua and his people (after they had, by book, agreed to let the matter stand over until the arrival of the British Consul, and one of Her Majesty's vessels) to acts of open violence against the shipping in the river, and to take the life of Mr. Walker, the agent for Messrs. Horsfall and Sons, are unanimously of opinion that it is highly desirable and requisite that King Bell should be deprived of his present authority in the river, and a person more suitable placed on the Throne.

We have also to complain that, in direct opposition to his promise not to furnish Mr. Main, of the brig "Mary," of Liverpool, with a pilot, until the arrival of the Consul, in consequence of an application to that effect from all the traders in the river, he, Mr. Main, having been charged with inducing the natives to sell him casks belonging to them, he, King Bell, did nevertheless provide him with a pilot, and allow his vessel to leave the river.

We have also to add other acts contrary to the position in which he is placed; it is stated by Dido Acqua that, as a further inducement for the Acqua Town men to violate their first agreement to us, he said that, should a white man kill his brother, he would at once destroy all the shipping at his beach, and murder all the white men on board.

We, the supercargoes now laying at the beach of King Bell, complain that he does not in any instance act consistently in his position, making no attempt to be honest himself, or induce his people to be so also; and that our cask-houses and other property we do not consider safe in such a man's hands.

(Signed)

E. HARRIS, *Master, barque "Fantee."*
H. C. WALKER, *Supercargo, barque "Guilford."*
JOHN BOWERBANK, *"St. Laurence."*
JOS. TRIPP, *"Mohawk."*
F. W. STAFFORD, *"Englishman."*
W. H. ASHMALL, *"Sir John Falstaff."*
HARRY ANTHONY, *"Lydia."*

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

King Acqua to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Cameroons, January 20, 1855.

I BEG to inform you about the matter which took place before Mr. W. Walker came to kill Ned Acqua. Some time ago, about three months, W. Walker stopped my brother Lawton on board ship "Alexander

Grant," for the debt which my brother owed to him; and about two or three days Lawton, his head woman dead, and all the families came to me and Dido, to go and beg Mr. W. Walker to let Lawton come and see his wife buried, according to custom in this place. So we went on board, and asked W. Walker, but he refused to let him go. We then told Mr. W. Walker that Lawton will give him security of four women and two large canoes in pawn; and then W. Walker agree to take and put to our hand; and we told Mr. Walker that we told him four woman and two large canoes was quite sufficient to pay the debt which Lawton and Ned, our two brothers, owed to him; and W. Walker give us two months to pay the debt; and if they do not pay him in the space of two months' time, we is to chop the four women and the two canoes. And we told Mr. Walker that we to stand the garranty for our brother until the debt is paid; and we told W. Walker that if four moon pass, we will sell the four women and the two canoes, either for oils or ivory; and the said W. Walker agree to the matter, and he let Lawton go the same day, and from that Lawton never paid anything to W. Walker, which is true.

Some time ago, after two months past, W. Walker asked me that the time is now past, and that he is going to stop Lawton, and I told Ned about it; and I told Dido to take two women, go and sell them, and get some oils for them, or ivory to W. Walker, and went on board "Alexander Grant," and told W. Walker about it, and he agree to do so; and the same time Dido went and told Captain Anthony, and Captain Anthony told Dido that he must go quickly, and try and pay W. Walker before palaver comes. So Dido took one woman, went up straight to market to get ivory for W. Walker, and W. Walker went and wait for Lawton in the road at Ned Dido Town, with his boat with guns; and he see Lawton was coming with his goods going to market, and W. Walker was alongside Lawton's canoe with his boat, and shot Ned Acqua, and fired again and shot another man. I do not know whether the man will get over the pain, and my peoples want to make palaver to all white men, and I say nay, I shall wait until the Councel came, or man-of-war; and I put my hand to the book, and so we wait until now—we make no palaver. I put two men to take care of his cask-house—to take care of everything, the first day. Some of my peoples try to destroy his boat, but I was not aware of it. I stop that, and also I put two men to Captain Anthony his cask-house, which Captain Anthony no of it; so I leave all my palaver to white man hand to settle it for me, as they that make me King for Acqua Town.

And again W. Walker stop my puncheons of oil for Lawton, and also come to my town with lot of Kroomen with muskets, and himself with two pistols to shoot me. Says that I called him boy; I oblige to run away to hide myself from him, which all people in my town and my womans laugh at me, and call me cowed—King is not fit to be in town. All this I take upon me, because I do not want any palaver with white men; and since this palaver came, all Cameroons says that me tell W. Walker to kill Ned Acqua. I have got no peace in my town with my peoples. Now, Sir, what must I do? where must I go to hide myself? I beg the Councel to look in this matter; also I do not no the time W. Walker kill my brother—what past between them; I was not in the canoe at the same time. You will be pleased to call my brother Lawton, and of the man that shot, and all the peoples that being in the canoe the same time; they will be able to tell you what take place when W. Walker came alongside the canoe, what they says, and what Walker says to them; what we say before he fire and kill Ned, and fire the second time and wound another man. And please to ask Captain Anthony if Ned did not tell him what W. Walker says before he took one of the women to go sell for him in the country.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ^{his} KING ✕ ACQUA.
mark.

Inclosure 5 in No. 36.

Statements made before Acting Consul Lynslager, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," Lieutenant-Commander Young, laying in the River Cameroons, on Monday the 29th day of January, 1855.

LAWTON ACQUA, on being sworn, stated:—Some time pass, Captain Walker stop me for ship. When my woman die, King and my brother came to tell me. Walker refused to let me go on shore to bury my wife. At 8 P.M. he allowed me to go. I had then alongside his ship five women and two canoes for pawns. He (Walker) said he would give us two months to pay our debts. Mr. Walker put the women in charge of the King and Dido Acqua; the canoes were put on the beach at his cask-house. He (Walker) said he would look to the King and Dido Acqua if we failed to pay.

King Acqua stated:—When Walker came to the river he stated, "I no be all same Lawton." "I go put all gun for cask-house." Last voyage he came to my house with pistols—asked me "if I called him boy"—"if you no talk true, I go show you boy to-day." Walker got five women and two canoes, as security for Ned and Lawton's debts, which Dido and myself were to sell, if they failed in payment in two months' time. Dido and myself were responsible for the debts. Walker went and killed my brother.

Black Will, a Krooman, sworn; stated:—Was in Mr. Walker's boat. We went alongside canoe. Guns were pointed at Mr. Walker before he fired. We told Mr. Walker not to fire, as the people in the canoe had not fired. Ned Acqua put down his gun after pointing it at Mr. Walker. All the Kroomen told him (Walker) to hold on—he fired. Ned Acqua fell into the water. All the Cameroon men ran away.

Bottle Beer, a Krooman, sworn; stated:—We put guns in Captain Walker's boat. Went alongside Dr. Anthony ship; then to Dido Town. We left; and Captain Walker told us to catch canoe. Ned Acqua got up with his gun and pointed it; he (Ned) asked, "what palaver this?" Walker got up and fired. Ned fell. After Ned was killed, Lawton Acqua got up a gun and snapped it three times. The canoe-men ran away. Only Ned had a gun, which he pointed at Mr. Walker.

William Walker stated:—In the latter end of September, Lawton and Ned Acqua asked a loan of two puncheons of oil; would not lend them on account of their heavy debts. They came again the next day, and used a great many protestations. I was induced to lend them the oil. They gave one puncheon to Captain Townsend, and sold one to Captain Stafford. They again came on board, and wished me to give them more trust. When Lawton Acqua went to the gangway, I stopped him for the trust he had. That afternoon some Acqua Town people came and told me of the death of Lawton's wife; at 10 o'clock at night I allowed him to go. They offered me women, but they were of no use to me; also two canoes, old and broken. Gave them two months to pay their trust. They all agreed if he failed to pay I was to seize them. When one month had expired they had made no attempt to pay me, and I could get no satisfaction. They were selling oil to the other vessels—they sold a large ivory to Captain Harris. I never went into the town with armed men. I always carried my own fowling-piece wherever I went. I gave them warning seven days before the time expired. King Acqua said he had no power. I was informed they were selling oil to Mr. Main; they even sold my empty trade-casks to Main. I saw a flag flying in their canoe, as if they purposed proceeding to market, which if they did I would be unable to detain or get them. I got my boat ready with cutlasses, and blunderbusses loaded with powder only. I called on board the "Lydia," to see Mr. Anthony. I had my own fowling-piece in the boat. I went to Dido Town and remained there about one hour and a-half. On coming down the river I saw the canoe coming up in-shore; waited for them; canoe-men got up their guns and pointed at me—one flashed; I fired my fowling-piece without any aim. Ned jumped into the water—canoe-men all ran away. I had no idea anything serious had occurred; told my Kroo-

boys to get Ned out of the water. Lawton Acqua seized me, but I threw him off; the natives from the beach were firing at my boat—shot was flying about in every direction. One of my Krooboys jumped overboard and was making for the beach; I followed in my boat to get him; the natives knelt down at the back of their canoe, and aimed their muskets at me; I presented my fowling-piece. I wished to take Ned Acqua to Dr. Anthony; as I was going to the "Lydia," the natives kept firing at me. Took Ned on board of the "Lydia." I returned to my vessel. Saw the natives seizing my cask-house. I fired a 9-pounder over their heads, when they apparently desisted.

Inclosure 6 in No. 36.

Statements made before Acting Consul Lynslager, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," laying in the River Cameroons, on Tuesday the 30th day of January, 1855.

LONG TOM DOVE, on being sworn, stated:—I was going with Ned and Lawton Acqua to market; while making sail we saw a boat coming from Dido Town; it was Mr. Walker; he came alongside, and told the Krooboys in his boat to "hold canoe." Ned Acqua asked, "Captain Walker, what palaver?" Captain Walker "got up one time, and fired one time." "I see him myself." He fired again. I had no gun. Only one gun in canoe, which was not loaded; No man for canoe fire gun.

Short Dove, on being sworn, stated:—I was in the canoe with Lawton and Ned Acqua. Captain Walker came alongside in his boat; "he take gun one time, he fire one time;" he kill Ned Acqua. He fired again and I was wounded. Only one gun in canoe.

Inclosure 7 in No. 36.

The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Beecroft.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, October 13, 1852.

FOR your future guidance I have to inform you that you have no jurisdiction to imprison at Fernando Po, or to try in that island, before a jury, or otherwise, British subjects charged with offences committed either in Africa—although within the limits of your Consular Commission—or on board of British vessels on the high seas, beyond the limits of your Spanish jurisdiction.

Inclosure 8 in No. 36.

Declaration.

WE, the undersigned King and Chiefs of Acqua Town, River Cameroons, do hereby guarantee the safety of all vessels in this river, all goods on board of these vessels, all property, of whatever description, on the beach, and the lives of all the persons on board; we also guarantee their safety, should they land on the beach. And further, we hereby promise to resume the trade immediately with these vessels, on consideration of receiving one cask of rum and fourteen pieces of cloth, when we will await the result of the investigation at Sierra Leone, on Mr. William Walker, supercargo of the hulk "Alexander Grant," stationed in this river.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel
 "Antelope," in the River Cameroons, this 30th day of January, 1855.]

(Signed)	King ^{his} X Acqua. mark.	(Signed)	Mead Tom ^{his} X Acqua. mark.
	Dido ^{his} X Acqua. mark.		Young ^{his} X King. mark.
	Lawton ^{his} X Acqua. mark.		Eyo ^{his} X mark.
	Charley ^{his} X Dido. mark.		Bottle Beer ^{his} X Acqua. mark.
	First Tom ^{his} X Dido. mark.		Jim ^{his} X Quan. mark.
	Ned ^{his} X Dido. mark.		Yellow ^{his} X Tom. mark.

Signed in our presence, day and date aforementioned:

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's
 Acting Consul.*
 C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her
 Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*
 Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic
 Majesty's Consul.*
 W. H. Ashmall, *"Sir John Falstaff."*
 Harry Anthony, *"Lydia."*
 John Bowerbank, *"St. Lawrence."*
 E. Harris, *barque "Fantee."*

Inclosure 9 in No. 36.

Ned Dido to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Cameroons, January 28, 1855.

I, THE Undersigned Ned Dido, of Cameroons, do hereby acknowledge myself before his Honour, that I am a trader in this part of the above Settlement. I am uncertain whether my late misfortunes have come to your knowledge; however, I most humble presume on your good nature, being assured, by sundry examples of your compassion, that you will think of, and take pity on, the distressed; therefore, as an object truly deserving of compassion, I most humble implore and petition you to consider the many losses and disappointment that I have lately meet with, which have reduced me to such necessitous circumstances that I cannot possible proceed in my affairs. You was pleased once to stile me your friend, and so I was indeed, and so I would most certainly be now, and show it, by signal proff of kindness. My reason is this; that I am about to leave this part, and make my factory below the Cape, and stay there with my families. As I am going to the Cape, be pleased as to supply me with cargoes. I am not slave, I am free man. I could do what I like. I wish to leave in peacesable life. You yourselves will no that I am a man. I wish to have an answer from his Excellency at once. Please to ask Mr. Ashmall, and the rest of the captains for my recommendation. Your Honour as being promise me afortime that you will give the Undersigned, Ned Dido, a factory. This reasin is this; I and my brother cannot agree; for this cause I loss many things. I allways give the captains oils, 50 to 40 puncheons. Asked any one, I will produced my papers at once. I wish to have a cooper and a clerk, which clerk I will recommend too.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) NED ^{his} X DIDO.
mark.

Inclosure 10 in No. 36.

Agreement.

I, KING BELL, of Bell's Town, River Cameroons, do hereby solemnly promise and agree, that I will duly and faithfully pay all trust owing by me to the supercargoes of the vessels laying at my beach, within the space of four months; and I further guarantee that all trust owing by the people in my town, for which I am security, shall be paid within the same period.

And I further promise to treat the supercargoes with all due respect, when they make application to me for their trust, and to assist them, as far as lays in my power, to assist them in collecting their trust.

I also promise to abide faithfully by any agreement I may make with the supercargoes in the river.

And in the event of my not fulfilling these stipulations, I am willing to be deprived of my present authority in this river.

Given under my hand, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," River Cameroons, this 1st day of February, 1855.

(Signed) ^{his} KING X BELL.
mark.

Signed in our presence, day and date abovenamed:

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's*
Acting Consul.
C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her*
Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."
Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic*
Majesty's Consul.
Jas. Bell.
^{his}
Jacko X
mark.
^{his}
John X Mooto.
mark.
^{his}
Green X
mark.
E. Harris, *barque "Fantee."*
John Bowerbank, *"St. Laurence."*
F. W. Stafford, *"Englishman."*
J. H. Tripp, *"Mohawk."*

Inclosure 11 in No. 36.

Agreement.

WE, the undersigned Kings and Chiefs of the River Cameroons, having suffered much in our trade by the fact of fire-arms being used prematurely, at the commencement of any palaver, do hereby agree, in conjunction with all the supercargoes, and for the prevention of such affairs in future, to inflict on the first man who takes a gun, except in self-defence, the penalty of entire exclusion from the body of traders (after paying any trust he may have in hand); not being allowed to visit or trade to any vessel laying here for such purpose.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel
"Antelope," River Cameroons, this 2nd day of February, 1855.

(Signed) King ^{his} X Acqua.
mark.

Dido ^{his} X Acqua.
mark.

Jim ^{his} X Quan.
mark.

Eyo ^{his} X
mark.

Preso ^{his} X Bell.
mark.

Moss ^{his} X Coko.
mark.

Taman ^{his} X
mark.

Ben ^{his} X Hickory Town.
mark.

(Signed) Sam ^{his} X Peter.
mark.

Joss ^{his} X Bell.
mark.

King ^{his} X Bell.
mark.

Jackoo ^{his} X
mark.

Green ^{his} X
mark.

Ned ^{his} X Dido.
mark.

Big Tom ^{his} X Dido.
mark.

Signed in our presence :

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.*
C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*
Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*
Edwd. Harris, *barque "Fantee."*
John Bowerbank, *barque "St. Lawrence."*
Harry Anthony, *hulk "Lydia."*
W. H. Ashmall, *"Sir John Falstaff."*

Inclosure 12 in No. 36.

Agreement.

WE, the undersigned Chiefs of the Cameroons river, having had a disturbance, in which fire-arms were used, and one or more men killed or wounded in the affray; do hereby agree to await the decision of the people of Wourri, as to the amounts of money to be paid for such man or men killed; and I, Ned Dido, agree to pay any claim that may be made, for the settlement of the palaver.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel
"Antelope," this 2nd day of February, 1855.

(Signed) Ned ^{his} X Dido.
mark.

Big Tom ^{his} X Dido.
mark.

King ^{his} X Acqua.
mark.

(Signed) Dido ^{his} X Acqua.
mark.

Jim ^{his} X Quan.
mark.

Eyo ^{his} X
mark.

Signed in our presence :

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.*
C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*
Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*
Edwd. Harris, *barque "Fantee."*
John Bowerbank, *barque "St. Lawrence."*
Harry Anthony, *hulk "Lydia."*
W. H. Ashmall, *hulk "Sir John Falstaff."*

Inclosure 13 in No. 36.

The Supercargoes of the Cameroons River to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Cameroons, February 3, 1855.

BEFORE you leave this river, we, the undersigned supercargoes, beg to tender to you our best thanks for the obliging manner in which you heard our complaints against the natives, and the impartial manner in which you have decided them.

We wish to record our unanimous opinion, that if your visits to this river were to take place more frequently, it would add much to the carrying out a proper and satisfactory trade, both for ourselves and the natives.

In again tendering to you our thanks and well-wishes, allow us to subscribe ourselves, your, &c.

W. H. ASHMALL.
HARRY ANTHONY.
JOHN BOWERBANK.
EDWD. HARRIS.
F. W. STAFFORD
JOS. H. TRIPP.

Inclosure 14 in No. 36.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Lieutenant-Commander Young.

Sir,

"Antelope," February 6, 1855.

I BEG to lay before you the following statements :

The natives of the Islands of Amboise, under the rule of King William of Bimbia, have denied his authority, refused to obey his orders, and seized his property, viz., canoes, slaves, and goods; they have also acted in the same manner to several of the principal traders of Bimbia.

King William informs me, that in the event of a vessel calling at the islands, with the object of purchasing slaves, he will be totally unable to prevent any shipment, and is therefore very much afraid of incurring the censure of Her Majesty's Government—with whom he has entered into a Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade within his territories—should such shipment take place.

The Chief of these islands has this morning refused to come on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," under your command, to communicate with me. He sent two of his men, to whom I stated, that on the Chief signing a document, acknowledging King William, of Bimbia, as the King of all the coast from Bimbia to Runby, on payment of a fine, which I would name, and delivering up the slaves, goods, and canoes he had intercepted, the matter would be amicably settled. These offers have been refused.

As such proceedings are greatly detrimental to legitimate trade, and may eventually cause the revival of the Slave Trade at this place, where it has been long extinct, I have therefore to request that you will open fire upon the town, and totally destroy it; the natives, as I have previously said, having refused to come to the only terms to which I can accede.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 15 in No. 36.

Declaration.

WE, the undersigned Chiefs and inhabitants of the Boobee Islands, adjacent to the Amboise Islands, do hereby acknowledge King William, of Bimbia, as the rightful King and Ruler of all the mainland and islands extending from Bimbia to Runby; and further, we hereby acknowledge ourselves to be his lawful

subjects; and we hereby promise that in future we will obey him in any orders he may send or give us.

That the late disputes we have had with the people of Bimbina be considered as finally settled.

We also promise to conduct ourselves as good and faithful subjects, under the penalty of incurring the displeasure of Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," this 7th day of February, 1855.

(Signed) Mahoua ^{his} X, *King, or Head Chief.*
^{mark.}
 Moutout ^{his} X, *Second Chief.*
^{mark.}

Signed in our presence:

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's*
Acting Consul.
 C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her*
Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."
 Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic*
Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 16 in No. 36.

Declaration.

WE, the undersigned King and Chiefs of Bimbina do hereby promise that, in future, we will in no way or manner whatever molest the inhabitants of the Islands of Boobee, adjacent to the Amboise Islands.

That all disturbances which have recently taken place be considered as finally settled with the Boobee people.

Any further palavers are to be referred to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, should no amicable arrangement be come to.

Given under our hands, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," this 7th February, 1855.

(Signed) King ^{his} X William. (Signed) Harry King ^{his} X William.
^{mark.} ^{mark.}
 Dick ^{his} X Merchant. Nacco ^{his} X
^{mark.} ^{mark.}
 Dick ^{his} X Bimbina.
^{mark.}

Signed in our presence:

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's*
Acting Consul.
 J. F. Johnson, *Second Master, Her Majesty's*
steam-vessel "Antelope."
 Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic*
Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 17 in No. 36.

Deposition.

Deposition of Robert Anthony Taylor, clerk on board the "Alexander Grant" hulk, laying in the Cameroons river, William Walker, agent to Messrs. Horsfall and Sons, Liverpool.

ROBERT ANTHONY TAYLOR, being sworn, stated that on Saturday, January 20, 1855, I, in consequence of orders I received from Mr. William Walker, informed him that Ned Acqua's canoe was getting ready to go to

market. He then told me to have the gig in readiness, as he intended to make prisoners of Ned and Lawton Acqua, to be given up to the Consul on his arriving in the river, on account of their not paying their debts to Messrs. Horsfall and Sons; he also ordered me to put five blunderbusses in the boat, but to be careful to load them with powder only, which I did. He shortly after went into the boat with his fowling-piece, which is a usual and constant custom, as that of all other white men in the river at all times. Mr. Walker then went on board Mr. Anthony's vessel, the "Lydia," and remained there some time; then went further up the river, and I lost sight of him. About two hours after, Ned Acqua's canoe left the beach, with apparently twenty-five men in it, and proceeded up the river; and when at some distance off, I perceived Mr. Walker's boat coming down again; the boat passed the canoe, and seemed to be fast on the beach. I did not hear the report of any guns, but perceived smoke from the beach, as if from a gun or guns being fired. I then saw Mr. Walker's boat leave the canoe, and pull towards the ship; and I then both saw and heard a great many guns fired at him or his boat.

W. Walker never took armed men on King Acqua's beach, or that of any other beach in Cameroons, nor do I believe he ever took pistols on shore, or any other weapon; if he had, I must have heard of it from the natives, which I never did until the day of W. Walker's examination on board Her Majesty's ship "Antelope," before Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, J. W. B. Lynslager.

It has also been a regular custom in the Cameroons river to seize the person of those persons owing trust, and is now carried on by both white and black men.

(Signed)

ROBERT ANTHONY TAYLOR.

Sworn before me at Clarence, Island of Fernando Po, this 8th day of February, 1855.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER,

Her Majesty's Acting Consul.

No. 37.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 3, 1855.

IN connection with my journal of proceedings in the River Cameroons, and relating the melancholy circumstances under which Ned Acqua was shot by William Walker, supercargo of the hulk "Alexander Grant," belonging to Messrs. C. Horsfall and Sons, Liverpool, I now beg leave to inclose two letters I have received from King Acqua, who (as I stated at the conclusion of my journal) had gone over to Cameroons to obtain the sanction of his Chiefs and people to a pecuniary settlement.

I sent my schooner "Selina" to Cameroons, to bring King Acqua over here again. He refused to come, and sent the letter, Inclosure No. 1; and by the mail-packet "Ethiophe," which arrived here yesterday morning, I received Inclosure No. 2.

I feel confident that some influence has been at work among the natives to thwart this mode of arrangement, as, being fully conversant with their character, I am convinced that a pecuniary settlement would be perfectly satisfactory to them.

Mr. Walker has been detained here for King Acqua's arrival; the witnesses have all returned to Cameroons; and on perusing the circular despatch, dated 13th September, 1852, I perceive the inutility of forwarding Mr. Walker to Sierra Leone for trial, having no witnesses for the prosecution.

The motives of the Cameroon people for refusing to accept of "any amount of money," is, I consider, an endeavour to procure a larger sum than Mr. Walker offered, to arrange the matter. Under these circumstances, I have considered it my duty to give Mr. Walker his liberty, reserving a sum of 50*l.* sterling, should the natives claim payment.

As King Acqua has requested that the affair, in all its bearings, should be laid before Her Majesty, I will await your Lordship's instructions for my future guidance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

King Acqua to Acting Consul Lynslager.

My dear Sir,

Cameroons River, February 26, 1855.

I HAVE write this few remark to you ; I hope it will inform you in health. I am obligh you by sending your vessel to took me over at Ferandopo, but it seem to me possible to coming over there, why because by offering to me the payment for my brother sak, and when I come to think about it, it seem to me just as I have selling goat or cow to you. On that reason cause me to drop up to comeing over. Respectble of my mind is that I will have good satisfacton by you, but befor that I rether have unpleaser, and before you put the mater to righ, you rether offer me to tak the money. So now at presend I have no world to say at all. I leave all the ocaseiton to you to managed, and then if you think you are not able to put it on righly, then we rether do without pay, because no body can take the payment for our brother sake. That is all I to say.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) KING ACQUA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

King Acqua to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Cameroons, February 26, 1855.

ACCORDING to your wish, I have informed my Chiefs of the proposition made by Mr. Walker (late of the "Alexander Grant," now lying in this river), in the matter of the death of Ned Acqua.

In answer, I have to inform you, that after mature deliberation, we have decided upon not accepting any amount of money as an equivalent for the death of the said Ned Acqua.

On the part of myself and Chiefs, I have respectfully to request that a fair statement of the facts concerning the death of Ned Acqua may be laid before Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, so that she may take them into her benevolent consideration, and devise means to prevent a recurrence of such aggression by her subjects; and that the same good feeling may still exist, as at present, between British subjects trading at my beach, and my own people.

I am, &c.

(Signed) KING ^{his} ACQUA.
mark.

Witness to signature:

(Signed) HENRY ANTHONY.

No. 38.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th of January last, inclosing a journal of your proceedings on a visit, in Her Majesty's ship "Antelope," to the Rivers Bonny, and New and Old Calabar; and I have to express to you my approval of your proceedings as reported therein.

With reference especially to the destruction of Old Town, in the Old Calabar river, by Her Majesty's ship "Antelope," at your requisition, in consequence of the Chiefs of that place having violated the VIth Article of the Treaty of February 15, 1851, relating to the abolition of human sacrifices, I have to inform you that, under the circumstances of the case, Her Majesty's Government approve your conduct in having called upon Lieutenant Young to destroy the town in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 39.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 9, 1855.

I HAVE received your two despatches of the 3rd of March, inclosing a journal of your proceedings at Acqua Town, in the Cameroons river and at Bimbia.

With regard to the inquiry set on foot by you as to the affair in which Ned Acqua, the brother of King Acqua, was killed by Mr. William Walker, supercargo of the British hulk "Alexander Grant," I have to instruct you to transmit to King Acqua a full and clear statement in writing of all the facts of this case, showing that the British Consul, and the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Antelope," had done all that depended on them to secure the ends of justice, and that those ends were defeated by the refusal of the King to take the steps which were indispensably necessary in order to bring Mr. Walker to trial. And King Acqua should therefore be warned not to allow any British subjects to be molested on account of this homicide, and he should be told that you hold in deposit the sum of 50*l.* as compensation for the nearest relations of Ned Acqua.

I have, at the same time, to observe that the system pursued by the British supercargoes in these rivers of giving credit to the natives, and of endeavouring to recover such debts by forcibly detaining their persons, is calculated to give rise to occurrences similar to that now under consideration; and if the supercargoes cannot devise a better mode of trading, it will become impossible for British authorities to attempt to maintain peace in the rivers of the Bight of Biafra.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 40.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 10, 1855.

WITH reference to that portion of the journal inclosed in your first despatch of the 3rd of March,* which relates to your proceedings at Boobee Island, against the rebel Chief of that island, who appears to have interrupted the peaceful traffic in the neighbouring river, and might have afforded shelter to slave-dealers; I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having attended to the complaint made by King William of Bimbia, against the Chief of Boobee, and of your having required Lieutenant Young, of Her Majesty's ship "Antelope," to resort to the hostile measures which led to the submission of that Chief.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 36.

No. 41.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received July 18.*)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, May 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the presents detained here for King Amacree of New Calabar, have been delivered to him, it having been represented to me that he was now entitled to receive them, in accordance with the tenour of your Lordship's despatch dated June 29, 1854.

I beg to inclose herewith the receipts and documents in connection with the delivery thereof.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 41.

List of Presents.

A LIST of goods composing the first annual gift of presents from Her Majesty the Queen of England to King Amacree, of New Calabar, delivered by order of Her Majesty's Acting Consul for the Bight of Biafra, on the 10th of April, 1855, according to the stipulation of the Treaty of the 8th of August, 1851.

50 half-barrels powder.
7 cases guns.
5,000 musket-flints, in 5 kegs.

Received the above-mentioned goods this 10th day of April, 1855.

(Signed) KING ^{his} AMACREE.
mark.
HARRY ^{his} BRAID.
mark

Witnesses :

(Signed) JAMES FINNIGIN.
HENRY HARDERN.
H. KERR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 41.

Certificate.

WE, the Undersigned, do certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, no Slave Trade has existed in the River New Calabar, or been carried on in any way from or through the territory of King Amacree, since the date of the agreement concluded with him by Consul Beecroft, on the 8th of August, 1851.

Given under our hands, in the River New Calabar, this 10th day of April, 1855.

(Signed) E. WYLIE.
J. A. STOWE.
CHAS. CAINE.
REUBEN HEMINGWAY.
F. GRANT.
W. YALLOP.
G. H. S. WITT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 41.

Declaration.

I, KING AMACREE, of New Calabar, do hereby declare that the Proclamation named in the 1st Article of a Treaty between John Beecroft, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, has been duly issued, and the laws therein mentioned strictly and fully enforced.

Given at the King's House, New Calabar, this 10th day of April, 1855.

(Signed) KING ^{his} AMACREE.
mark.

Witnesses :
(Signed) JAMES FINNIGIN.
HENRY HARDERN.
H. KERR.

No. 42.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, July 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 8th May last, and acknowledging receipt of my journal of proceedings in the Rivers Bonny, New and Old Calabar, and of your Lordship's approval of my proceedings therein, and of the approval of Her Majesty's Government of my having requested Lieutenant-Commander Young, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," to destroy Old Town, in the River Old Calabar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 43.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, July 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 9th May, 1855, acknowledging receipt of my Journal of Proceedings at Acqua Town, Cameroons river, in the case of the death of Ned Acqua.

I beg to advise your Lordship that Mr. William Walker left this place for England in the mail-packet "Candace," on her last voyage, quite unknown to me till two days afterwards.

Your Lordship's instructions to forward to King Acqua a full and clear statement, in writing, of the circumstances connected with the death of his brother, shall receive immediate attention.

I have lately received private information that Mr. Daniel McGowan, at present agent for Messrs. Horsfall and Sons, of Liverpool, and who has succeeded Mr. William Walker in the River Cameroons, has paid over to the King and Chiefs of Acqua Town a large amount of goods, as an indemnification for the loss of Ned Acqua. In the event of this information being correct, which I have every reason to believe, King Acqua and Chiefs can now claim no redress from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, having arranged the affair in a private manner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 44.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, July 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 10th May, 1855, conveying your Lordship's approval of my proceedings against the rebel Chief of the Boobee Island, adjacent to the town of Bimbia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 45.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, September 15, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the removal of Pepple from the Bonny river to Fernando Po, and subsequently to Ascension, I have to inform you that I have received several applications from him, in which he complains of being detained at the latter place against his will, and urges that he may be allowed to return to his own country. He also claims payment of 4,000 dollars, which he states to be due to him on account of two years' arrears of presents not yet paid by Her Majesty's Government. By a despatch from Mr. Campbell, dated the 21st of July last, I learnt that a young negro named Harvey was on his way to this country, for the purpose of presenting certain letters from Pepple to the same effect. This person has lately arrived in London with the letters in question, and Her Majesty's Government have taken Pepple's petition into their consideration.

Upon a review of the whole circumstances of the case, it appears that Pepple voluntarily accompanied the late Mr. Beecroft to Fernando Po, but that when it was found advisable to remove him from that place, on account of the mischief which resulted from his power of communication with his late territory, it was to a certain degree against his will that he proceeded to Ascension. Her Majesty's Government do not wish to place any restraint upon Pepple's actions, so long as he does nothing that will injure legitimate trade in the Bonny or elsewhere; but at the same time they feel themselves bound, not only in justice to British subjects who have embarked their capital in the now flourishing commerce with the natives on the Bonny river, but also from regard to the welfare and happiness of the natives themselves, to take the strongest measures allowable for the preservation of the peace, and consequent prosperity, of the district in question.

I have now to instruct you to inform Pepple that Her Majesty's Government consent to his request to be allowed to leave Ascension, but you will, at the same time, try to induce him to enter into some agreement that he will not return to the Bonny river; and you will also warn him that if he does anything leading to the interruption of British trade, he will find himself in the position of being directly opposed to the British authorities.

As Her Majesty's Government cannot accuse Pepple of any violation of his Anti-Slave Trade engagements during the time that he was King of the Bonny, they allow that he is entitled to the 4,000 dollars which he claims. But it appears that Commodore Adams has advanced to King Pepple 100*l.*, and the sum of 15*l.* has been paid for the maintenance of his messenger, Harvey, in this country. These two sums will therefore have to be deducted from the 4,000 dollars, and you will pay the remainder to Pepple either in one sum, or, if you can induce him to consider it for his advantage so to accept it, by instalments of the amounts agreed upon between you.

You will at the same time repay the Commodore the 100*l.*, and remit to Mr. Conyngham, the Chief Clerk of this office, the sum of 15*l.*, and you will reimburse yourself for these payments, and for the sums drawn by you on account of the balance due to Pepple, by drawing bills on the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury at thirty days' sight, under the customary regulations.

No. 46.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 13.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, August 31, 1855.

I BEG leave to acquaint your Lordship that I have made an urgent requisition to Commander J. McD. Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," to proceed to the River Bonny with myself and Secretary, at the request of Messrs. Hemingway and Witt, deputed by the British supercargoes in that river for the purpose of representing the alarming state of affairs consequent on the death of King Dapho, which took place on the 13th instant, and when 600 to 700 persons were wantonly murdered.

I am not at present in a position to give your Lordship a full and particular account of this affair; but Commander Skene having signified his intention of receiving me on board Her Majesty's ship "Philomel" to-morrow, for passage to Bonny, I will be enabled on my return to furnish your Lordship with full, complete, and, I sincerely hope, satisfactory accounts of the proceedings Commander Skene and myself may feel justified in adopting.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 47.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st of August; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve your intention to proceed to the Bonny, for the purpose of inquiring into the recent disturbances and loss of life which have occurred at that place.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 48.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, October 5, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith my Journal of Proceedings, and inclosures, of my visit to the Rivers Bonny and New Calabar.

Your Lordship will observe that the trade—which was stopped by the natives, in consequence of Captain Witt having taken two Chiefs on board of his ship, who were falsely charged with the death of King Dapho, and which they threatened never to resume unless these two men were handed over to them, to be murdered in cold blood—was, previous to my leaving that place, again opened, and the excitement at the late massacre of all who were considered

a friend of, or who inadvertently pronounced the name of, the ex-King, was appeased.

These two men, your Lordship will observe by a despatch from the late Consul dated 4th February, 1853, were elected Chiefs and Regents shortly after King Pepple had had a stroke of paralysis. In my Journal of Proceedings of January last, your Lordship will also observe that the supercargoes spoke highly of Ischacco, or Fred Pepple, in having exerted himself so much to liquidate the debts owing by the ex-King; he having paid 324 puncheons oil out of 350 due. They were also two of the best and most honest traders in the river, and in whom the ex-King had unlimited confidence: they were, therefore, likely persons to be suspected by those who wished to exterminate the ex-King's people. They were possessed of a vast amount of property, lists of which I beg to inclose (Inclosures Nos. 16 and 17). They are now utterly destitute, and have as yet no means of getting a livelihood. Under these circumstances, I will give them, with their seven servants, an allowance of 1s. per day, in all 9s. per diem, until your Lordship gives me instructions what to do with them, having promised that they will never return to Bonny, where their lives would not be one moment in safety.

Anne Pepple informed me that there were two sons and one daughter of the ex-King's residing in Jew-Jew Town, and he wished very much that I would take them away, as he was very much afraid that their lives were in danger, and he would be unable to prevent their being poisoned or murdered.

I would respectfully beg leave to suggest to your Lordship that a portion of the 4,000 dollars due to their father be appropriated to the education of these children in Sierra Leone, there being no proper school here. These children can never return to Bonny any more, and by receiving an education they might become useful members of society, and thus gain a livelihood by their own exertions. I hope your Lordship will forward me instructions on this question.

The noble endeavours of Captain Witt, in saving the lives of these two men, cannot be too highly appreciated, although done at the risk of putting an entire stoppage to his trade in that river for ever; but now that he is allowed to remain, I apprehend no loss to him.

I am greatly indebted to Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," for so promptly attending to my requisition, and for the assistance he rendered me in Bonny. To Lieutenant Boger I am also indebted for able assistance.

The evils of the trust system were most forcibly drawn out on this occasion, when the natives held a sum of 80,000*l.* sterling of trust in their possession, and which they said they would not pay unless the two men were given up; stating that it would do to purchase clay and bamboo-mats to rebuild their town, should the British men-of-war destroy it. The natives had been for several days engaged in removing their property to a place of greater security.

With regard to the fine inflicted on a supercargo in New Calabar, I state in my journal that the amount will be handed over to the "Patriotic Fund" lately raised in England.

I beg to request that your Lordship will inform me if this meets your approval, as I know of no better purpose it could be devoted to.

Trusting my proceedings will meet with your Lordship's approval, I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

Journal of Proceedings in the Rivers Bonny and New Calabar.

Sunday, September 2, 1855.—EMBARKED on board Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," Commander J. McD. Skene, bound for the River Bonny.

Monday, 3rd.—Rains and calms.

Tuesday, 4th.—Light winds and rain.

Wednesday, 5th.—Squally weather, accompanied with rain. 6 P.M. anchored off Breaker Island. Wrote to the supercargoes as per Inclosure

No. 2. Captain Yallop called on board, and informed me that the trade had not been resumed, and that none of the natives visited the shipping.

Thursday, 6th.—Supercargoes came on board early. Received a letter from them, which I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 3). On consulting with Commander Skene, we considered it advisable to open negotiations with the Chiefs by letter, to be carried on shore under a flag of truce. Wrote to the Chiefs as per Inclosure No. 4, and Captains Caine and Stowe volunteered to carry the letter on shore.

On conversing with the supercargoes I found that Ischacco and Yaniboo were charged with poisoning the late King Daphio; that they had taken refuge on board of Captain Witt's vessel, who, when they were in danger of being wantonly murdered in cold blood, took them off to his vessel the "*Ferozepore*" in his own boat; that the people of Bonny on hearing that their intended victims had escaped, commenced a massacre among the people belonging to or friendly to the family of the ex-King Pepple; the wives, children, and slaves of these two men were murdered wherever found, and the town was in a state of civil war; the natives, to increase their excitement maddening degree, mixed powder in their rum and became quite infuriated; stray shot, in some instances, struck the vessels laying at anchor, which had been removed from the position they formerly were in to a greater distance from the town, fearing that the natives might forget themselves and endeavour to seize upon the shipping. Many loud explosions were heard, and the last remnant of the ex-King's people, who had defended themselves in his mud-house until the means of sustenance were totally exhausted, ignited some gunpowder, and thus ended their miserable existence.

The state of the river as described to me by the supercargoes was fearful to think on, so many decomposed bodies floating up and down the river as the tide ebbed and flowed; this was the more wonderful, as accidents were very frequent from the great number of sharks in the river.

Several communications have been held with the Chiefs, as per Inclosures Nos. 5, 6, and 7.

The supercargoes informed me that the natives were determined to stop the trade, unless the two men were given up to them.

Dr. Stiles, of the ship "*Sea*," had been called upon to see the King previous to his death.

The King, it appears, had gone to the adjacent country to settle a palaver between the King of that place and his own people; he was absent for fourteen days, during which time his canoe was his only place of shelter, and he was thus exposed very much to the weather, which at the time was very bad, there being several days of incessant rain. This exposure to one unaccustomed to it, produced inflammation of the chest; and the medicines prescribed and remedies proposed by Dr. Stiles were unattended to.

A jew-jew (or fetish) man residing in the Eboe country was consulted on the death of the King, which he ascribed to poison administered by these two men.

Their faith in this jew-jew is unbounded, and these two men were at once condemned as the murderers of the King, although they were at some distance from Bonny at the time of the King's death.

Friday, 7th.—At 6.30 A.M. received a letter from the supercargoes, which I beg to inclose herewith (Inclosure No. 8). At 9 A.M. I left the vessel, accompanied by Lieutenant Boger and Mr. Simpson, my secretary. After leaving the vessel the rain poured down in torrents, till we reached the "*Fanny*," the Chairman's vessel, a distance of six miles from the "*Philomel*." It shortly afterwards cleared up, and several of the supercargoes joined us. Messrs. Caine and Stowe again volunteered to go on shore with Lieutenant Boger, who was in full uniform, according to the request of the Chiefs.

Messrs. Caine and Stowe then proceeded in one boat with a flag of truce; Lieutenant Bozer and Mr. Simpson following in another, with a flag of truce also.

I beg to inclose a copy of the Minutes of the Conference (Inclosure No. 9).

Leave having been given for the "*Philomel*" to come up the river, two guns were fired as a signal for her, and she came up, anchoring close to the ships.

Wrote to the Chiefs that I would visit them next day.

Saturday, 8th.—At 10 A.M. left the "*Philomel*," accompanied by

Lieutenant Boger and the supercargoes, with the exception of Captain Witt, as I considered it unadvisable, under existing circumstances, for him to go on shore yet. Several posts, with mats over them as a shade, were erected in the market-place, and in a short time the Chiefs assembled and a great many of the natives, standing around; they were sullen, but appeared anxious to hear what I had to say to them. When all were seated, and quietness obtained, I addressed them, saying that I had come in a man-of-war, but not for the purpose of going to war with them; that I was very sorry to hear of King Dapho's death; that King Pepple had acted very bad to them as his subjects; that he went to Fernando Po when Dapho was elected King; that Pepple attempted on one occasion to leave Fernando Po, but I detained him; that he then endeavoured to stop the Bonny trade to Eboe through Old Calabar; that I then wrote to them, the King, Chiefs, and supercargoes, requesting to know if they wished King Pepple to return to Bonny; that they wrote me in answer they did not wish him to return any more, and that now he had gone to Ascension, and would never be seen again.

I then alluded to the case of a Chief of Bonny named Awanta, who was the cause of the death of two British subjects some time ago, and who was sent to Ascension, and asked them if the white traders put any stoppage to their trade on that account; this case being alluded to they seemed quite unprepared for. I also stated that I had taken the ex-King Pepple's son away last time, at their own request, and that he would join his father at Ascension. I then alluded to the heir to the throne, and stated that I had been informed that the late King Dapho had three wives who were pregnant; that in the meantime it would be necessary to elect a Regency for the protection of the country; that I would not interfere in that election; that the Chiefs must elect their own Regents, it not being any white man's palaver; that no white man had any right to interfere in any of their country affairs. As they were now listening very attentively to what I said, I spoke of the two Chiefs, Yaniboo and Ischacco, that they had thrown themselves under the protection of the English flag, and that under these circumstances no inducement or threats would allow of their being given up; that it was an old, very old custom of their own, that if a native claimed and received the protection of that flag, his person was safe and inviolable; that all the wives, children, and slaves belonging to these two men had been massacred, and what more did they require? Why stop their trade, which was involving them in a serious loss? Why not elect Regents and resume trade?—they had no head at present; that they supposed the ex-King would return and then there would be plenty of palaver, but I assured them that that was impossible; and that these two men would never be allowed to go back to Bonny again; that they could never see them more, and that measures would be taken as far as possible to prevent them having any communication with Bonny.

Jack Brown, a Chief, here rose and said, that if these two men had taken their own canoe and gone alongside of Captain Witt's ship, there would have been no disturbance about them, but they had gone off in Captain Witt's boat, and that a white man was jew-jew in Bonny.

Captain Wylie stated to the Chiefs, that if Captain Witt had got to Fernando Po previous to Mr. Hemingway, the two men would not have been handed over to me.

The Chiefs stated that some of the supercargoes knew of Fred and Yaniboo arming their houses previous to the outbreak.

Captain Hart said Fred had poisoned him, as he had been sick for some time.

I stated to the Chiefs that I thought they wished the country to "fall down," by stopping the trade.

The Chiefs said some of the supercargoes threatened to bring the ex-King back again, and now we say, if you bring him back we will kill him.

Captains Wylie and Corran denied this *in toto*.

The Chiefs here asked for Captain Witt.

Captain Corran said he (Witt) did not like to come on shore yet.

Jack Brown said, "why need he fear?" white man be jew-jew in this country.

Captain Corran then spoke to the Chiefs to justify the conduct of the supercargoes in sending away the two men, stating that they thought that after

two or three days' consideration on their (the Chiefs') part, that all would go on again as usual, and they would think no more of them.

The Chiefs, who were apparently determined to lay before me every instance of what the supercargoes had done to them for years back, then said the supercargoes called them Niggers. This was strenuously denied.

The Chiefs again stated that white man was jew-jew; that no harm would befall Captain Witt if he chose to come on shore; that if a white man did anything, black man must do all the same. They said that the supercargoes struck them, but they could not give me any instance of such an aggression.

Captain Wylie here rose, and explained to the Chiefs that the Commercial Treaty bore upon any acts of maltreatment committed by either party.

A Chief, named Warasow, here complained of Captain Caine having abused him; but it was found that Warasow had been insolent in the extreme, and that Captain Caine had given him a dash or present when leaving the river that voyage.

Marilla Pepple, the second head Chief, quite a young man, rose and said that they had heard all; that if they did not get Yaniboo and Ischacco, no man would go to any of the ships to trade. This was apparently said at the instigation of some of the late King's people. The Chiefs then consulted for some time, when Anne Pepple and Jack Brown rose and said, "We hear all you say; we think of these two men, and if we cannot get them, Captain Witt must take away his ship."

I here explained to the Chiefs that any white man would have done the same as Captain Witt did; that their own customs allowed an English ship to be a sanctuary."

The Chiefs here again said, if the men had gone in a canoe, all would have been well, but as they had gone in Captain Witts' boat, they did not approve of it; that the massacre commenced immediately afterwards.

The supercargoes denied having any previous knowledge of the outbreak.

The Chiefs then said that they had sent three boys to Yaniboo's house, to see if it was true they had gone away, and that those boys were shot; that Witt took these men away, and he must either take away his ship, or he must pay a fine.

Seeing they were gradually coming to terms, I considered it advisable to dismiss them for the day; previous to doing so, I stated to them that if any of them chose to pay Her Majesty's ship "Philomel" a visit, they would be welcome, and I pledged my word for their safety: this they declined. I then stated I would have a meeting of the supercargoes to consult with them, and would again meet the Chiefs on Monday at 10 o'clock. The conference then broke up.

The Chiefs were now more humorous and gay; they had had an opportunity of saying to me all they wished, and I saw that the greatest difficulty was passed. Arranged for a meeting with the supercargoes on Monday at 8.30 A.M.

Sunday, 9th.—At 10.30, public worship; fine dry day.

Monday, 10th.—At 9.45 left Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," accompanied by Commander Skene, Lieutenant Boger, and several officers of the "Philomel," in full uniform; also the supercargoes. On assembling, I addressed the Chiefs, stating that all the palaver was now settled, only the amount that they wished Captain Witt to pay as a fine. I again impressed on their memory that any Englishman would have acted in precisely the same manner as Captain Witt, and that he only did it for a good end; that the ex-King had been removed from any interference with their country for the purpose of doing them good; and now that it was a perfect impossibility for Captain Witt to pay anything for such a noble action; that the two men would be taken away from Bonny, and would never again see it; that I did not come for war; all I wanted was to see the trade again opened, but it was out of reason to make Mr. Witt pay.

Wozoo, a head man of the late King, here came forward and said, all they wanted was Ischacco and Yaniboo; that they had killed the King.

I stated that as they had formerly said the ex-King would not be received in Bonny, he had been sent to Ascension; that I knew and felt perfectly assured that these two men had not killed the King; that I could not deliver them up; that they had killed all their people, and asked them what more they wanted.

The Chiefs then retired to consult with the boys of the late King, and returned in about ten minutes, when Anne Pepple and Jack Brown came forward on the part of their brother Chiefs, and said, "The Chiefs of Bonny say they

want these two men; you say you can't give them, as they are under the protection of the British flag; and we now say that as you will not give us the men, Captain Witt must go away in his empty ship, as no man will trade with him."

I again argued the ex-King's case with them, that he was taken away for acting unjustly; but why send Captain Witt away, who had acted as any Englishman would have done?

Captain Caine here addressed the Chiefs in their usual style of talking English, and asked them if they would not allow Captain Witt to fill the vessel he had; and if at the end of that time they wished him to go away, he would then be in a position to do so without incurring any loss to his employers.

Wozoo, the late King's man, then endeavoured to bring a complaint against Dr. Glanville, a supercargo, about some coral due to the late King, but which turned out to be in Mr. Glanville's favour. An amicable arrangement was then come to, to exchange the coral for some other goods.

The Chiefs stated that Dr. Glanville had been very kind in furnishing them with medicine, &c., when sick.

The Chiefs then said that as the comeys had to be divided for the general expenses of the country, that in future they would be unable to pay the annual allowance of 300*l.* to the ex-King.

The Chiefs then said they had done with all palaver, and that Captain Witt was to remain and fill his ship.

The Chiefs brought a complaint against the supercargoes for their not purchasing the wood that some of the poor inhabitants were in the habit of cutting, intended for stow-wood.

In answer to this, the supercargoes said they were obliged to send their own Kroomen, whom they could little spare, to cut the wood, in consequence of the natives having cut it so very small that it was useless to them.

It was then agreed that a piece of wood the proper size should be given to any one who chose to cut wood, and the supercargoes agreed to purchase it.

They also said that formerly, when any jew-jew man went on board a vessel, he was presented with some beef or pork, but that the supercargoes gave them nothing now.

The supercargoes said they would not recognize the jew-jew on board of any of their vessels.

Jack Brown, the pilot, made a complaint that he was not sufficiently remunerated for pilotage, but the supercargoes stated that the payment was quite ample.

I then stated to them that they would receive a Consular visit every four months in future, and that if any palaver came up, it was to be referred to the Consul, who would arrange all; that they were on no account to stop trade; that if they wished to communicate with me, they were to go to the Chairman of the Court of Equity, who would write me what they wished.

The Chiefs then said, that as they could not get the two men, they hoped the supercargoes would never mention their names again, as they did not wish to hear any more of them.

The Chiefs then retired to consult who were to form the Regency, when several of the head men came to me, and said that they had heard all that I had said—that they were very well pleased; that they thought the Chiefs would have a difficulty in naming the Regents, so as to give general satisfaction, and they wished me to name the Regents. On the Chiefs returning I stated this to them, and they perfectly agreed to it. On consulting with the supercargoes, I found that the most eligible persons were Anne Pepple, Captain Hart, Ada Allison, and Manilla Pepple—the last-named, who was a very young man, to be assisted and advised by Bannego and Oko Jumbo. This arrangement appeared to give entire satisfaction to all.

It was then agreed that a meeting would be called next day, in the same place, when the Regency would be appointed; and Commander Skene stated that he would give them a royal salute of twenty-one guns.

Tuesday, 11th.—At 10 A.M. left the "*Philomel*," accompanied by Commander Skene, Lieutenant Bozer, and supercargoes. Captain Witt accompanied us this day, and was well received. The Commission for the Regency was read by Commander Skene, and translated by Captain Edward Wylie. I inclose a copy herewith (Inclosure No. 11).

I then stated to the Regents that they were now in charge of the country, and were to consult with the Court on any matters of trade.

Anne Pepple wished to know if they were to get anything for the Slave Trade Treaty. I replied, that it was impossible to pay twice for one thing, but that if any slaver came into the river, they were at liberty to seize her, and everything belonging to her; to break up the vessel; and that no white man had any right to interfere with such vessels.

An arrangement was then come to for the division of comeys then due.

I gave them a document, as per Inclosure No. 12, for the comeys in future.

Charley Africa brought a complaint against Captain E. Wylie, which ended in Charley Africa being made out to be a very bad character, and would be dishonest if he could.

The practice of reducing the casks received from the supercargoes was the next topic, and as the custom is very prevalent, which robs the white trader of his due quantity of oil, I spoke on this for some time, and urged on them the necessity of acting justly with the white men. I wished them to sign a document to put an end to this, but they would not do so, saying it was their slaves who did so, not them; that they were unable to prevent it, and that the traders with themselves would arrange all that.

The Chiefs appeared again in their usual manner, and on my asking them when they would break trade, they said soon; there were several other small things to speak about; for instance, the Court-house, which had been rooted to the ground, not a vestige of it remaining; but I considered that as the grand point of opening the trade had been gained, it was advisable to let these matters stand over till they got another visit, when they would be more composed.

Commander Skene then wished to know if he was to fire the royal salute for them, when they said they wished to have a copy of all the Consul, themselves, and the supercargoes had said. As it was too late then to give it them that day, it was agreed that my Secretary should visit them next day, with copies of the Minutes. We then left, and went on board the "Philomel."

Wednesday, 12th.—A great many canoes with oil, were afloat early this morning, and the river again resumed its former busy appearance; the shipping were again dropping into their old berths. At 10:30 A.M., my Secretary, accompanied by Captains Caine and Wylie, went on shore, to Anne Pepple's house, where the Chiefs and a number of people were seated. The copies of the Minute were translated by Captain Wylie, and the Chiefs were quite pleased. The four Regents then got their flags, and hoisted them on the beach, in a position to be seen by the greater part of the shipping, when the "Philomel" gave them a royal salute; the natives, I am told, were highly delighted with this mark of respect.

Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx" arrived at 1 P.M.

I inquired into the state of New Calabar, and found that a visit there would be beneficial.

I then wrote to Commander Skene, thanking him for his valuable assistance during the conferences, requesting that he would devote the "Minx" for visiting the other rivers. I inclose a copy of my letter to Commander Skene (Inclosure No. 14).

Thursday, 13th.—Intended to have gone to New Calabar this morning, being very foggy, with heavy rain.

Friday, 14th.—5:30 A.M., left Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," and joined the "Minx," Lieutenant Commander Roe. The "Philomel" got under weigh, and proceeded to Lagos. 7:30 A.M., the supercargoes on board, the "Minx" got under weigh. At 5 P.M. anchored off Breaker Island, the "Minx" being unable to proceed any further, in consequence of her steam-power not being equal to the strength of the tide.

Saturday, 15th.—6:30 A.M., under weigh. In the forenoon a light breeze, which materially assisted the "Minx" in getting up the river. 1 P.M., off the shipping, when the New Calabar agents joined us. 2:30, anchored off the town; a gun was fired, as a signal to King Amacree and Chiefs. Captain Witt went on shore to bring Amacree and his Chiefs off. The supercargoes informed me that it was Calabar Sunday, and they were doubtful if they would come off; however they soon made their appearance. On coming on deck they

were received by Commander Roe and myself. They were in good spirits, and on all being seated and quietness obtained, I addressed the Chiefs on the Additional Articles made to the Commercial Treaty, made by me in January last, and stated, that as the 40-inch cask created an ill-feeling between the white and black traders, that I considered if a cask of the same dimensions and gallonage as used in Bonny was made the standard measure, it would prove far more satisfactory to all concerned; that he (the King) should put a stop to all cutting of casks, as it was nothing more or less than a robbery committed on the white trader, and that he (the King) ought to punish any one who committed such a deed, and that any native trader offering any cask for sale which had been cut down from its original size of 38 inches and 220 gallons measurement, should be fined one puncheon of palm oil; and a white trader for receiving such, a fine of five puncheons.

The King and Chiefs retired to consult on this, and returned in about five minutes, when they agreed to this, but wished more time than one week, which the supercargoes required, to supply them with regular 38-inch casks.

It was also agreed that a chairman should be appointed every month, to whom all disputes about casks were to be referred to. I inclose the original of the second Additional Article herewith (Inclosure No. 13).

I then informed the King and Chiefs that Captain Yallop had laid a complaint about a long boat belonging to his vessel, which had got on a bank during the evening of the 11th of August last, when on her passage to the Bonny, with a cargo of oil, when a great many canoes, from Fouche and Young Town, proceeded to her, and stripped her of her masts, rigging, &c., &c., and then proceeded to cut her to pieces; her cargo, of nine puncheons of oil, had been previously picked up by the natives. King Amacree and Chiefs being held responsible by the Treaty for such acts committed within his territory, I adjudged that the natives be fined three puncheons of oil for the damage done to the boat, and that six of the nine puncheons picked up be returned; three being retained for salvage.

A charge was then brought against Captain Whatton, of the "Lord Elgin," for a breach of the Additional Articles to the Commercial Treaty made on the 10th of January last. As I was perfectly satisfied the charge was proven, and to show the King, Chiefs, and supercargoes that I was fully determined to carry out the Treaties, and whatever additions might be made to them, I fined Captain Whatton two puncheons of good saleable palm oil, which will be sold, and the amount forwarded to the "Patriotic Fund." King Amacree requested that a gun might be fired for him when he left the ship, which Lieutenant Commander Roe kindly complied with. 5:30 P.M., under weigh, and proceeded down to Fouche Point, and anchored.

Sunday, 16th.—7 A.M., under weigh, and proceeded again for Bonny. Captain Stowe kindly volunteered to pilot us into Bonny again. Anchored in the river at 3 P.M.

Monday, 17th.—At 1 P.M. held an investigation regarding a Krooman, named Toby, who had mysteriously disappeared from the ship "Fanny," but who belonged to the ship "Sea." The Kroomen of the two ships were at war in their own country; an ill-feeling thus arose between the parties, and one of the "Sea's" boys, who had been caught in the "Fanny's" cask-house, was struck by the watchman there. The following evening Toby went to the "Fanny's" cask-house, to inquire into this matter. Pomona, headman of the "Fanny," on being sworn in the country fashion, stated: Toby came to our cask-house, with seven boys; heard them say they must make me fly; they asked me out to fight; all the boys came up, and flogged me. I caught hold of Toby, and took him to the "Fanny." Captain Corran put Toby in irons; he had a chain on his neck one day, at night no chain. I got up to look for him, but I could not see him. Several Kroomen were put on oath, and interrogated as to what they knew of this affair, but nothing could be elicited which gave the least clue to his disappearance. In consequence of the sickness of Mr. Hemingway, of the "Sea," the matter had not been investigated the day following the occurrence at the cask-house.

I reprimanded Captain Corran, of the "Fanny," for not taking measures to have allowed the Krooman to return to his own ship, especially when both vessels were in the same employ.

I was obliged to leave the affair as it was, in the meantime.

I was informed by the supercargoes that during the day the natives had been insolent in the extreme, and had been committing many acts of theft on board of the vessels in the river.

Tuesday, 18th.—Wrote to the Chiefs as per Inclosure No. 15. At 9 A.M. under weigh. At 4 P.M. outside the bar. Her Majesty's ship "Hecate" in sight; fired two guns, as a signal for her to bear down. 7:30 P.M., Lieutenant Commander Roc boarded the "Hecate," which bore away for Fernando Po.

Wednesday, 19th.—Light airs and calms.

Thursday, 20th.—6 A.M., heavy rains. 11:30, cleared up. 8:30 P.M., anchored in Clarence Cove, when I landed.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Acting British Consul, Bight of Biafra.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Supercargoes of the River Bonny.

Gentlemen,

"Philomel," Bonny River, September 5, 1855.

MESSRS. HEMINGWAY and Witt having been deputed by you to visit me for the purpose of representing the state of affairs lately existing in the River Bonny when King Dapho expired, and considering the vast amount of British property at stake, and British lives much endangered by the hostile appearance of the natives of that river, I immediately made a requisition to Commander Skene of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," senior officer of the Bights Division, desiring that he would render me his very valuable assistance, by proceeding to this river, when some amicable arrangement might be made and the trade of the river resumed, and which, I am happy to say, Commander Skene immediately concurred with.

I have now to request, Gentlemen, that you will, at your earliest convenience, furnish me with a full and complete written statement of this disturbance from its origin, and that you will furnish me with any documents you may have in relation thereto, and further, that these documents may bear the signature of each supercargo, this being of the utmost importance, to the proceedings Commander Skene and myself may feel justified in adopting.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 48.

The Supercargoes of the River Bonny to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Bonny River, September 6, 1855.

ON Wednesday morning the 22nd ultimo, the protection of Mr. Witt was sought by two Bonny Chiefs, Ischacco and Yaniboo, who stated their lives were in danger in consequence of its being the general persuasion in the town that they, by some means, had caused the death of the late King Dapho; Mr. Witt promptly acceded to their request, and took them on board his ship. Shortly after this occurrence, he reported what he had done to the other supercargoes, who were then on board the "Fanny," and his proceedings had their approbation.

Whilst conversing on this matter, the firing of musketry commenced in the town, and continued almost uninterruptedly for three days; several heavy explosions of gunpowder were heard, and many houses seen on fire.

At a meeting expressly convened for taking into consideration what should be done with the two Chiefs, it was deemed advisable to send them out of the country at once, and it was hoped that their absence, a few days' reflection, and our assuring them that they should never again return to Bonny, would satisfy the people.

The two Chiefs were immediately sent away; a communication forwarded

on shore, intimating what had been done, and hoping that they would resume their intercourse with us as formerly: this message, instead of being met in the spirit we anticipated, was received in the most violent manner, and the fiendish and frenzied feeling, we hoped was allayed, burst forth again; all further communication with us was forbidden, under a threat, unless the two men were returned, nothing besides would pacify or appease them, and they were distinctly seen dragging guns into a position to bear upon the ships, and making other demonstrations sufficiently convincing of their hostile intentions.

It was decided that Mr. Hemingway should at once be sent to Fernando Po to consult you, and endeavour to obtain the services of one of Her Majesty's ships to assist in bringing matters to an amicable conclusion.

After Mr. Hemingway had left, we sent several times to the people, as we were desirous of keeping open the communication, in hopes that they would be induced to listen to our proposals; but in vain we argued, and did all that men could, without descending to weakness. They would not hear, and at last refused to listen. They insisted upon the two men being delivered up to the laws and justice of their country, by which they had been tried and found guilty: as this message was accompanied with strong assurances of no ill-feeling prevailing in their minds towards the white people, that if the men had escaped themselves, or even been taken away by the Consul, they would have acknowledged the legality of their removal, but that as they were taken away by a trader in his own boat, they were not, according to their laws, entitled to the benefit of the protection of white men.

We then held another meeting to discuss the message and deliberate upon what was best to be done. After five or six hours' consultation, it was determined to send Mr. Witt to Fernando Po, with a letter to Mr. Hemingway rescinding his former instructions, and insisting upon the two men being brought back here. Meantime, we would exert ourselves in every possible way to avoid a further effusion of blood: but should all our efforts unfortunately fail, we had but one alternative, however painful and repulsive to our feelings it might be, viz., that he must demand them to be given up, in whosoever custody they were, and that we should hold that party responsible who refused to comply with our request.

We trust that your endeavours may meet with success. We shall be most happy to render you all the advice and assistance in our power, and hereby tender you our services.

We have to request that you will be kind enough to convey to Captain Skene our thanks, and appreciation of his kindness in so promptly attending to our wishes.

We are all extremely indebted to you for the decisive manner in which you have acted on this and on all other occasions when we have had to solicit your valuable assistance and advice.

We have, &c.
(Signed) W. H. L. CORRAN.
E. WYLIE.
CHAS. CAINE.
JOHN GLANVILLE
J. A. STOWE.
G. W. S. WITT.
W. YALLOP.

Inclosure 4 in No. 48.

Acting Consul Lynslager and Commander Skene to the Chiefs of the River Bonny.

Gentlemen,

"Philomel," Bonny River, September 6, 1855.

WE have to inform you that we have arrived here in the above-named vessel. We are deeply sorry to hear of the death of King Dapho, and of the melancholy circumstances which attended his demise.

We have, however, to inform you that our present visit is with no intention to interfere in your country customs; that we visit you with no hostile purpose, but to endeavour to restore and re-establish your trade in the river with the

British vessels now laying here, and which must be the cause of a ruinous loss to you.

We are apprised that you have made a demand for the persons of Yaniboo and Ishacco. These two Chiefs have placed themselves under the mighty protection of the Queen of England's representatives, and they never can be given up to you on any account. However, as their presence in this place might probably lead to dissensions among you, we promise you that they never again will set foot in the River Bonny, which we are perfectly certain will at once meet with your approval, and, we hope, satisfy your demands. You well know that any person who claims British protection always meets with such ; and we are confident the Bonny Chiefs will, when they read this, at once resume the trade of the river.

As we wish to have a conference with you as to the appointment of a Head or Chief for the river, and to make arrangements for the re-establishment of trade, we hope that you will meet us on board Her Majesty's ship "*Philomel*," to-morrow, at 11 o'clock forenoon, for that purpose. As you may have a feeling of fear to come on board Her Majesty's ship, we promise you, on the word of British officers, that your persons are safe and inviolable, that you may come and return as you deem proper, and that a boat carrying a flag of truce, which, you know, is a sign of "safety" to all, and recognized by all nations, will attend you on your passage.

The two Chiefs were placed under our protection previous to the arrival of Mr. Witt in Fernando Po, and no influence then could be of any avail to carry them back in accession to your demand.

So many women, children, and slaves belonging to Yaniboo and Ishacco having been already sacrificed, we trust, gentlemen, that you will give these two men their lives. You are aware that they are poor men, now ; they have to commence again, and have, as you term it, "fall down."

Once more, gentlemen, we beg to reassure you that your persons are perfectly safe ; and again, as British officers, we pledge you our word of honour that you will be perfectly at liberty to return.

As the vessel is laying far down the river, we wish you to state to the bearer of this if you wish the vessel brought further up, and if boats are to be sent for you. Waiting for an early answer, we are, &c.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER,

Acting British Consul, Bight of Biafra.

JOHN Mc D. SKENE,

Commander of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Philomel,"

Senior Officer of the Bights Division.

Inclosure 5 in No. 48.

Mr. Corran to the Chiefs of Bonny.

"Fanny," Bonny River, August 25, 1855.

AFTER so many of our surgeons had attended to the late King, and prescribed medicines for him, which you all very well know he refused to take, and inquiring as we did from those doctors the cause of his illness, and doing all we could to relieve him, we are surprised that you should accuse us of indifference, when, individually and collectively, we have occasion and do feel very great sorrow, that such an unfortunate and untoward event occurred—all be too sorry ; and doctor say, "Poison no kill King."

Fred Pepple and Yaniboo sought our protection, and you know very well—it is a custom established and recognized amongst yourselves—that if a man runs away from any supposed danger and seeks protection, or places himself under the protection, of a Chief, that Chief shields him from harm. We only did the same ; and, to meet your wishes, those men are now on their way to Fernando Po, and will never be seen in Bonny again, unless the Bonny Chiefs wish them to return with the Consul when he next visits the river. We expect this course will fully satisfy the Bonny Chiefs, because they must know and feel as Chiefs and gentlemen themselves, that we could not deliver up those men to be murdered in cold blood.

Understand, Bonny Chiefs, if you wish those two men to be brought back

to Bonny, the British Consul shall bring them; but we do think and hope their being for ever banished will satisfy you.

We are keeping the "Blondine" here purposely to be able to send down to Fernando Po in her your resolutions. Surely your own good sense and feeling would prefer this unfortunate affair being arranged by your old friends (the supercargoes) and yourselves, than by the interference of the Consul and man-of-war.

We would not let Yaniboo and Fred Pepple go to New Calabar, because they showed us very clearly how very easy it would be for Calabar and Creeka men to injure Bonny and to put an entire stoppage to their ever going to the fair again; but we don't wish that, we don't want any wanwan thing to come for Bonny from any country; we want all wanwan palaver to go for bush, and no Bonny man to 'member nurrer ting—but white man be him friend.

A true copy of this was fairly made out and sent on shore, signed by
(Signed) W. H. L. CORRAN.

Recollect, gentlemen, long, long time ago your fathers' fathers made white man joo-joo; and when the big joo-joo time came, any canoe which could get alongside a ship, or any boy who could even touch a rope, was safe; and although a dozen joo joo canoes were around, not one dare put a hand upon them. Don't some of you remember Moro Castle saving his oil and canoe from King Pepple, by proving one of his boys had hold of a rope alongside the "Commerce," before the King's boys touched his canoe?

A copy of this was added to the accompanying letter, and signed by
(Signed) W. H. L. CORRAN.

Inclosure 6 in No. 48.

The Chiefs of the River Bonny to the Chairman of the Court of Equity.

Bonny, Saturday, August 25, 1855.

THE Bonny Chiefs beg to say that they have no mouth for white man.

Unless Fred Pepple and Yaniboo are given up to them, that they will not go to fair, pay their debt, or trade. They believe that they poisoned the late King; that Fred Pepple was the first man to put guns into his house and to fire; that the white man never asked any question, but took them unknown to us, at which we are vexed.

Fred Pepple's own houseman (Tyarrun) told the Bonny Chiefs that Fred poisoned the late King. That the late King was their own choosing. That they are vexed that the white men did not inquire about the King's death, but protected the men who killed him.

Inclosure 7 in No. 48.

The Chiefs of the River Bonny to the Chairman of the Court of Equity.

Bonny, Saturday, August 25, 1855.

THE Bonny Chiefs do not want Fred Pepple or Yaniboo to go to Fernando Po, but to be given up to them in Bonny. The Consul did not take him away; he be trade man take him. Suppose he will not give them up, trade must stand still, if it be for 20 years. This no be man-of-war palaver. Suppose you bring man-of-war and fire shot for Bonny, and burn house, them trust will be expensive to you to bamboo matts and sand for build house. This is the last mouth we have for white man, unless Fred Pepple and Yaniboo be given up to us. We know King be poisoned; Doctor know nothing about it.

Inclosure 8 in No. 48.

The Supercargoes of the River Bonny to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

"Fanny," Bonny River, September 6, 1855.

MESSRS. CAINE AND STOWE took your letter on shore and read it to Allally and some others, who remarked it was too late then to call a general meeting, as several of the Chiefs were absent in the small countries; but Messrs. Caine and Stowe were requested to be on shore to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, accompanied by one of Her Majesty's officers in full uniform, when there would be a general attendance of Bonny Chiefs, &c., to discuss its contents.

They do not implicitly credit that the brig at anchor off Breaker Island is really one of Her Majesty's vessels, but are inclined to the opinion that it is the "Blondine," and no doubt this is the reason for their wishing to see a "man-of-war officer," and they particularly requested he should have his epaulettes on.

It is very fortunate "Philomel" anchored where she is, for they state most positively that if she had come up at once, and anchored with the shipping, Bonny would immediately have been deserted, as they have sent all their valuables out of the town, and their canoes are all ready to carry themselves away.

We are, &c.
(Signed) W. H. L. CORRAN.
CHAS. CAINE.
J. A. STOWE.
E. WYLIE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 48.

Minutes of a Conference held at the house of Anne Pepple, Chief of the River Bonny, on Friday, the 7th of September, 1855.

Present:—LIEUTENANT BOGER, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," Mr. T. M. Simpson, Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul; Captain C. Caine, ship "Magnolia;" Captain S. Stowe, ship "Belle;" who went on shore under flags of truce: when Anne Pepple, Manilla Pepple, Jack Brown, Captain Hart, John Wilson Pepple, Black Foobra, Warasow, George Goodhead, Dublin Green, Finebone, Tom Brown, Jack Telefer, King Holiday, Ada Allison, John Africa, Boniface, Gozo Foobra, Diok Telefer (deputy), Chiefs of the River Bonny, assembled.

Captain Caine read the letter addressed to the Chiefs by the Acting British Consul, and Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel;" a translation of the same, rendered into broken English as spoken by the natives of Bonny, was then read.

The Chiefs then retired to consult on their answer, and returned in about five minutes.

Anne Pepple, on the part of his brother Chiefs, stated that they had no palaver for any white man. When Mr. Beecroft elected the late King he stated that he was to be King for all country. He was a young man and has died; we are all very sorry for this. On the King's death Ischacco, or Fred Pepple, put guns in his house. The Chiefs wished to find the cause of the King's death. Fred was getting his canoe ready to proceed to market; on being asked to join the Chiefs he said "yes." He then went to his house and told his people to shoot any one who came nigh the house. Our country fashion or custom is, if any man kill King he must die. If twenty Chiefs combine to kill the King, they must all be killed. Next day the Chiefs heard that Captain Witt had taken Fred Pepple, or Ischacco, off to his ship; they sent three boys belonging to Anne Pepple to Fred's house, to see if this was the case; on the boys approaching the house Fred's boys fired on them, when two were killed and one wounded. We then commenced to kill Fred and Yaniboo's people. Two of Fred's slaves gave us information that

Fred and Yaniboo had given the King poison, and according to our laws their lives were forfeited. If a man takes a canoe and goes to an English vessel and seeks protection, we cannot touch him, as he is then under the English flag; but Fred and Yaniboo went off in a boat, and we do not think that is right. We think Fred killed the King to get a new one of his own. We wrote to the supercargoes, desiring that they would not take the men out of the river; if a man-of-war take them away that is all right, but trade man should not take them. We have no palaver for any white man. All we demand is Fred Pepple and Yaniboo; if we cannot get them, trade must stand still.

Lieutenant Boger then explained to the Chiefs that the "Philomel" had arrived in the river with the Acting Consul, not for the purpose of interfering in any of their country fashions or customs, but to reestablish the trade, and to assist them in appointing a head or Chief. Leave was asked for the "Philomel" to come up the river, the distance from the shipping being so long that it was very inconvenient.

The Chiefs, after a few moments' consideration, granted leave for the "Philomel" to come up the river.

Lieutenant Boger then requested the Chiefs to inform him what time they would visit the Consul on board the "Philomel."

The Chiefs at once distinctly stated they would not visit a man-of-war; and in reply to Lieutenant Boger's question, would they meet on board a trade ship? they gave the same answer.

Lieutenant Boger stated that if they were afraid, two officers of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel" would remain on shore as hostages, during their conference with the Consul.

This was also flatly refused.

King Holiday rose in a state of great excitement, and said that they did not want a man-of-war; that they did not want the Consul; that they did not want any palaver; they only want Fred Pepple and Yaniboo, and if they do not get them, all the ships may go away.

Lieutenant Boger explained to the Chiefs that these men having taken refuge on board of an English vessel, that the captain could not deliver them up again without making himself amenable to the laws of England; and these men now being under the protection of the British flag, that the authorities neither could nor would redeliver them.

The Chiefs gave this as their answer to the Consul, and the conference broke up.

(Signed)

THOS. M. SIMPSON,
Clerk of the Conference.

Inclosure 10 in No. 48.

Declaration.

To all whom it may concern.

WHEREAS it has been represented to us by the Chiefs of the Bonny river, that the amount of comeys hitherto deducted for the maintenance of ex-King Pepple is a grievous tax upon the country, and one which, under existing circumstances they are unable to pay, it is hereby ordered, that in future no further allowance be made to ex-King Pepple from the comeys of the ships laying in this river.

Given under our hands at Bonny, this 12th September, 1855.

(Signed)

J. W. B. LYNLAGER,

Acting British Consul, Bight of Biafra.

JOHN Mc D. SKENE,

*Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Philomel,"
and Senior Officer, Bights Division.*

Inclosure 11 in No. 48.

Declaration.

To all whom it may concern.

WHEREAS, in consequence of the death of King Dapho, of this river, it has become necessary to establish a Regency (until an heir shall become of age) for the government of the country, the protection of British interests, and the fulfilment of the existing Treaties, Slave Trade and Commercial, we do hereby nominate, appoint, and empower the under-mentioned Chiefs to act as and constitute that regency, viz. :—

Anne Pepple,
Ada Allison,

Captain Hart,
Manilla Pepple.

The last of these four Chiefs, Manilla Pepple, in all cases, consulting with Bannego and Oko Jumbo, two gentlemen of the river.

We therefore empower these Chiefs, constituting that Regency, to act as may be required of them for the good government of the country, and that all British subjects will abide by the requests or decisions of such Regency, and refer all matters or questions of dispute to them.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Philomel," laying in the River Bonny, this 11th day of September, 1855.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER,
Acting British Consul, Bight of Biafra.
JOHN Mc D. SKENE,
*Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Philomel,"
and Senior Officer of the Bights Division.*

Inclosure 12 in No. 48.

Declaration.

To all whom it may concern.

WHEREAS a Regency has been established in the River Bonny, it is hereby ordered that in future all comeys due by ships entering the river shall be paid to the following persons constituting that Regency, or to any person that may be appointed to receive the same, viz. :

Anne Pepple,
Ada Allison,

Captain Hart,
Manilla Pepple.

And that on no consideration are any comeys to be stopped on account of any debts the late King may owe.

Given under my hand, on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Philomel," in the River Bonny, this 12th September, 1855.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul, Bight of Biafra.

Inclosure 13 in No. 48.

*Second Additional Article to the Commercial Treaty with the King and Chiefs
of the New Calabar River, dated October 2, 1850.*

ARTICLE I.

THAT in one week from this date, it be deemed illegal for any supercargo to receive from a trader an irregular cask ; that the trade-puncheon be a regular 38-inch cask ; and should any trader bring a regular cask of less dimensions and gallonage, he must make good the difference. Should he, however, dispute the guage of the supercargo, he may be allowed to take his cask of oil away.

ARTICLE II.

That any breach of the above Article shall be punished as follows, viz :— Any native offering such a cask for sale shall be fined one puncheon of palm oil—the puncheon in question to be held as security for the fine; and any white trader receiving or purchasing oil in such irregular cask be fined five puncheons of palm oil.

ARTICLE III.

Should any trader dispute the fact of the puncheon being cut which has been offered for sale, the matter to be referred by both parties to the Chairman of the New Calabar Committee, who shall endeavour to settle the matter himself, but failing to do so to the satisfaction of both parties, shall call a meeting of the whole of the members, whose decision shall be final.

ARTICLE IV.

Should any native trader object to the size of a cask which he is receiving from a supercargo, and that supercargo insist upon him taking it, he may, if he chooses, apply to the Chairman of the Calabar Committee to measure said cask, and should it be found to exceed a 38-inch cask, the cask shall be forfeited to said trader.

ARTICLE V.

That the first and second Articles of the Additional Treaties made on the tenth January last, be from and after this date considered null and void, and are hereby rescinded.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Minx," in the New Calabar river, this fifteenth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

(Signed) King ^{his} X Amacree.
mark.

^{his} Will X Barboy.
mark.

^{his} Harry X Braid.
mark.

^{his} Emanuel X
mark.

^{his} Prince X Will.
mark.

^{his} Big X Harry.
mark.

^{his} George X Will.
mark.

^{his} Black X Duke.
mark.

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Acting British Consul,*
Bight of Biafra.

Richd. Hy. Roe, *Lieutenant Commanding.*

Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic*
Majesty's Consul.

John Glanville, "*Peru.*"

John La French, "*Severn.*"

W. H. L. Corran, "*St. Andrew.*"

J. A. Stowe, "*Belle.*"

G. H. S. Witt, "*Swiftsure.*"

E. Wylie, "*Ambrosine and Sarah.*"

W. B. Whatton, "*Lord Elgin.*"

Chas. Caine, "*Magnolia.*"

(Signed) Yellow ^{his} X Duke.
mark.

^{his} George X Amacree
mark.

^{his} Don X Pedro.
mark.

^{his} Jack X Rich.
mark.

^{his} War X Mate.
mark.

^{his} Standfast X Jack.
mark.

^{his} Tiger X Amacree.
mark.

Inclosure 14 in No. 48.

Acting Consul Lynslager to Commander Skene.

Sir,

"Philomel," River Bonny, September 12, 1855.

THE presence of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel" here, under your command, has restored quietness among the natives, and the trade has been again resumed with the British vessels laying here.

The able assistance yourself and Lieutenant Bozer have given me, has tended in a great measure to this result; and I return you my most sincere thanks for that assistance, without which there would have been a very serious loss to several British merchants, the natives holding trust to the amount of 80,000*l.* sterling, and the value of the shipping and cargoes being of the estimated value of 800,000*l.* sterling, which was much endangered previous to your timely arrival, but which is now quite safe.

I am certain you must see the urgent necessity for the Consul visiting the rivers more frequently than has been the custom, to arrange any differences that may arise between the supercargoes and natives.

As Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx" is now in this river, I beg to request that you will permit her to proceed to the Rivers New Calabar, Old Calabar, Cameroons and Bimbia.

These rivers have not been visited since February last, and several applications have been made to me to visit them, but my requisition for Her Majesty's steam-ship "Antelope" could not be complied with, and although the "Minx" is rather unfitted for that purpose, having little accommodation, I will take advantage of this opportunity, as another may not occur for some time.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 15 in No. 48.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Regents of the River Bonny.

Gentlemen,

"Minx," River Bonny, September 18, 1855.

I AM extremely sorry to hear that many cases of theft and insolence occurred yesterday on board of several ships in the river.

I sincerely hope that on the supercargoes making a complaint to you of such cases, and furnishing you with the names of parties who may so commit themselves, that you will at once take such steps as may be deemed necessary to prevent them in future.

You will please to make it known to the people of Bonny that no insolence is to be used with the white men, under pain of your displeasure; and as I now hold you responsible for the good government of the country, I trust you will prove yourselves equal to the high station you now hold, and give satisfaction to the British supercargoes now trading in your river.

In the hope that you will do all in your power to prevent such occurrences in future, I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 16 in No. 48.

List of Fred Pepple's Property in and around the River Bonny. August 1855.

8,160 Manillas.	Household furniture and cooking utensils, &c.
4,000 ditto.	1 gig canoe.
8,000 ditto, hidden under ground.	3 messenger canoes.
100 pieces gingham.	1 chest drawers, cost 1 puncheon.
1 chest drawers, cost 1 puncheon, containing	3 brass pans, cost 3½ puncheons.
20 pieces Bandanas.	22 large iron pots.
8 cases, containing various cloths.	12 ditto.
2 large brass pans, cost 3 puncheons.	3 50-gallon iron pots.

Oil in the Ahumbala, to the amount of 53 puncheons.	1 oil canoe, carrying 10 puncheons.
Ditto ditto, 36 puncheons.	1 " " 8 "
22 various-sized canoe guns.	1 " " 8 "
3 pistols, cost 2 puncheons.	1 " " 4 "
1 canoe, carrying 20 puncheons.	1 " " 20 "
1 ditto, carrying 10 puncheons.	1 " " 3 "
10 puncheons' worth coral.	1 " " 3 "
4,000 large shot.	1 " " 4 "
8 large empty cases, cost 8 puncheons,	1 " " 16 "
4 various-sized canoe guns.	1 large tub full of earthenware, cost about 4 puncheons oil.
1 war canoe, carrying 6 puncheons.	2 cases of cut bottles, cost 6 puncheons.

Inclosure 17 in No. 48.

LIST of Yaniboo's Property in and around the River Bonny. August 1855.

12,000 to 13,000 Manillas.	7 pieces India Madras, worth 1½ puncheon oil.
10 puncheons bars.	1 small cask pig-lead.
1 box, containing 3 pieces flannel, cost 3 puncheons oil.	24 quarter-barrels powder.
1,140 iron bars.	3 coats, worth 1 puncheon.
8 barrels rum.	3 cases of Tombo bottles, worth 4 puncheons.
2 puncheons' worth cowries.	2 frock coats, worth 1 puncheon.
13 ditto beads.	24 harpoons, worth 1 ditto.
9 ditto coral beads.	6 flags and 6 trumpets, worth 1 ditto.
1 hogshead tobacco.	2 hogsheads tobacco.
13 guns, 2 to 6 lbs.	1 case India Romalls.
5 swivels.	1 puncheon and 6 trunks, containing merchandize.
2 brass ditto.	6 large iron pots.
6 20-gallon iron pots.	1 box dinner service, cost 1 puncheon oil.
10 chairs.	1 box silk handkerchiefs.
1 canoe, carrying 10 puncheons oil.	12 pieces ditto, worth 1 puncheon oil.
2 ditto, carrying 5 ditto each.	8 puncheons different cargo.
1 ditto, carrying 8 ditto.	75 pieces of cloth, value 5 puncheons.
2 canoe-gigs.	45 puncheons trusted out to the natives of the town Eyambler.
4 small canoes.	18½ puncheons trusted out to the natives of the town Aquitta.
1 canoe, carrying 9 puncheons oil.	1 canoe, carrying 4 puncheons oil.
1 ditto, carrying 15 ditto.	1 ditto, carrying 4 ditto.
800 Calabar manillas.	1 33-inch cask full of round and grape shot.
1 cask flints.	6 chairs.
200 tubs salt, worth 1½ puncheons oil.	1 chest of drawers, worth 1½ puncheon.
1 case double-barrelled pistols, worth 1 puncheon oil.	1 piece damask, worth half-a-puncheon.

No. 49.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, October 5, 1855.

I MOST respectfully beg leave to call your Lordship's attention to the urgent necessity there is for a Consular visit to be paid to the rivers in this jurisdiction every four months at least. When a longer period elapses the natives immediately come to the conclusion that the supercargoes have no protection, and British interests suffer materially thereby.

It is also highly requisite that one of Her Majesty's steam-vessels, of a light draught of water, and of sufficient horse-power to stem currents and headwinds, should be devoted for these periodical visits, as Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," now appointed for that service, is only capable of steaming very little more than one mile an hour, which exposes all to a longer stay in these rivers than is requisite, and to the influence of the malaria, which may cause fever among the ship's crew.

Lieutenant-Commander Roe, on my joining, was kind enough to erect a house on deck with sails, &c., where I lived, she having no spare accommodation below; the height between decks not being sufficient for any one to stand erect renders her very uncomfortable. I proceed to Old Calabar, Cameroons, and Bimbia in her on the 8th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 50.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, October 5, 1855.

I BEG to acquaint your Lordship that on my recent visit to New Calabar I requested King Amacree to inform me what he wished for his third and last year's presents, when he informed me that he would feel grateful to Her Majesty's Government if they would forward him silver dollars for the amount due.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 51.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 13, 1855.

I HAVE to refer you to Mr. Lynslager's despatch of the 27th of January last, and more particularly to that part of the Journal of Proceedings therein inclosed which relates to the destruction, by Her Majesty's ship "Antelope," on the 19th of January, 1855, of Old Town, in the Old Calabar river, and in which Mr. Lynslager states that, on consultation with Lieutenant Young, they came to the conclusion that, after the destruction of Old Town, a declaration should be issued prohibiting the re-erection of that town.

You will find accordingly, by reference to Inclosures Nos. 32 and 33 of Mr. Lynslager's above-named despatch, that on the 20th of January he addressed letters to King Eyo of Creek Town, and to Duke Ephraim of Duke Town, ordering them to prevent any houses from being erected in Old Town under the penalty of incurring the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government.

I have to acquaint you that the members of the Mission Board of the United Presbyterian Church at Edinburgh have addressed to me a remonstrance complaining of these proceedings against Old Town; and as it appears to me that this addition to the punishment inflicted upon Old Town is unnecessarily severe, I have to desire that, on your arrival at your post, you will inquire into the existing disposition of the inhabitants of the Old Calabar district, and if there should be no strong grounds for continuing in force the prohibition issued by Mr. Lynslager, you will inform the Chiefs who have been expelled from Old Town that, if they will enter into a Treaty with Great Britain, solemnly undertaking to abolish human sacrifices, the use of the poison-nut, and the practice of killing twin children, and if they will by the same Treaty engage to suppress the Slave Trade, to expel European slave-dealers, and to protect Christian missionaries, Her Majesty's Government will recall the interdict which prohibited them from rebuilding their town on its former site.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 52.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th of October,* inclosing the Journal of your Proceedings at Bonny and New Calabar between the 2nd and 20th of September, the contents of which Journal relate principally to the rupture and subsequent renewal of commercial intercourse between the natives and the British supercargoes at Bonny, which rupture appears to have been

* No. 48.

brought on in consequence of the rescue of two native Chiefs having been effected by one of the British supercargoes.

It appears also from your despatch that these two Chiefs arrived at Fernando Po in a state of utter destitution, and that, as they were without the means of getting a livelihood, you allotted to them and their seven servants an allowance amounting in all to 9s. a-day, to be continued until you should receive instructions thereupon.

And your despatch further states that Anne Pepple, one of the Bonny Chiefs, wishes you to take charge of two sons and a daughter of the banished King Pepple, who are now in Jew-Jew Town; and you propose, with regard to this application, that a portion of the 4,000 dollars due to Pepple from Her Majesty's Government should be appropriated to the education of these children at Sierra Leone.

I have to acquaint you that I will recommend to the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury that you should be indemnified for the expenditure which you shall have incurred up to the time of your receiving this despatch, on account of the maintenance of the two refugee Chiefs and of their attendants; and in the meantime you will transmit to me an account of that expenditure. But I have to state to you, at the same time, that, although I am glad to learn that these men have been rescued from the vengeance of their countrymen, and that the dispute between the Bonny Chiefs and the British supercargoes has been satisfactorily settled through your intervention, yet Her Majesty's Government cannot authorise the British Consul for the Bight of Biafra to take upon himself permanently to maintain the refugee Chiefs, nor to provide either for the continued safe custody of the ex-King Pepple or for the education of his children, because these are objects for which the British Consul at Fernando Po cannot properly be expected to find funds; inasmuch as Her Majesty's Government might not only become involved in a large extent of unforeseen expenditure, but also in many embarrassing local feuds, if the Chiefs of the different rivers of the Bights of Benin and Biafra, and the British supercargoes trading with them, should be encouraged to suppose that the British Consul has been placed at Fernando Po for the purpose of maintaining an asylum there for all refugee Chiefs, or of keeping in confinement any expelled Rulers who may have made themselves obnoxious to their subjects or to the British trading communities.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 53.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1855.

WITH reference to that part of your despatch of the 5th October* which relates to your visit to New Calabar, and in which you request to be informed whether you have done right in paying to the "Patriotic Fund" the amount of a fine imposed by you upon a British Captain at New Calabar for a breach of the regulations respecting trade, I have to state to you that it appears to me that these fines should not be sent home, but that they might be paid over to the Chairman of the New Calabar Committee, to be applied by him for local purposes beneficial to the trading community at that place.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 54.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th of October;* and I have to inform you that the request made by King Amacree that the amount due to him for presents from Her Majesty's Government should be paid in silver dollars, has been referred to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 55.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 7, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch to you of the 23rd ultimo,† I have to acquaint you that the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury will be prepared to defray the expense (at the rate of 9s. per diem) which you may have incurred, up to the receipt of my above despatch, in maintaining the two African Chiefs Yaniboo and Ishacco, mentioned in your despatch of the 5th of October.‡

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 56.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 7, 1855.

HAVING represented to the Lords of the Admiralty that it is of importance that you should be enabled to proceed in a man-of-war to visit the rivers of the Bight of Biafra once in every three months, I have to inform you that a letter has been received from the Admiralty, stating that directions have been given to Commodore Adams to provide for this service, if the other exigencies of the station will admit of his doing so.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 57.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, October 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith my Journal of Proceedings in the River Old Calabar in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," Lieutenant-Commander Roe.

Your Lordship will observe that my time was occupied in endeavouring to get the Chiefs to come to an amicable arrangement for the payment of the trust owing to the British supercargoes, which they were very dilatory in paying.

I sincerely hope your Lordship will approve of the measures I took to obtain a clearance of these debts.

I am extremely sorry, my Lord, that I was compelled to request Mr. Kerr to order Mr. Morgan, supercargo for Messrs. Stuart and Douglas, of Liverpool to leave Her Majesty's vessel; but the expressions and insinuations he thought

* No. 50.

† No. 52.

‡ No. 48.

fit to make use of to me on that quarter-deck, and which I have fully explained in my Journal, justify and fully bear out the necessity of my adopting such measures, when I had been endeavouring to give him an equal share with the other supercargoes in rotation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 57.

Journal of Proceedings in the River Old Calabar.

Monday, October 8, 1855.—EMBARKED in Her Majesty's steam-ship "Minx," for the River Old Calabar.

Tuesday, October 9.—At 2 P.M., off the bar at the entrance of the river, and proceeded up with a light sea-breeze. At 11-30 P.M., anchored, in consequence of the "Minx" being unable to proceed against the ebb-tide.

Wednesday, October 10.—Got under-way at noon, and proceeded. 4 P.M., anchored a little below Duke Town. Wrote the supercargoes and missionaries as per Inclosures Nos. 2 and 3. The supercargoes, with the exception of Mr. Morgan, called on board; and on inquiring if they had any grievances to lay before me, they one and all stated they were perfectly unable to obtain their trust from the natives; that King Eyo was now disposing of his oil to a person of the name of Nicoll, a coloured man from Sierra Leone, who shipped it to England in the mail-packets; that Nicoll had only a very few goods on his arrival there, and had only obtained a few packages since, and the supercargoes were very much inclined to believe that Eyo was shipping the oil on his own account; that that oil was shipped in the casks lent to the natives by the supercargoes, who were thus robbed of them; that King Eyo, by giving this person his oil, or shipping it on his own account, was detaining the British merchant-vessels by not paying his trust, and that he was also very lax in enforcing the payment of trust for which he stood guarantee. I requested the supercargoes to give me a written statement of the same.

Thursday, October 11.—Received a letter from Mr. Anderson, which I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 4); also one from the supercargoes, which I also inclose (Inclosure No. 5). Mr. Morgan, supercargo of the vessels "Ellen Stuart," "Lady Head," and "Mars," called on board in the forenoon; and on my asking him if he had any complaint or grievance, he answered, None whatever. He remained some time in conversation with me relative to the oil owing to him by King Eyo. Mr. Morgan, who is an agent for the house of Messrs. Stuart and Douglas, of Liverpool, had arranged with King Eyo, some time since, to bring out a small vessel (the "Mars") laden with a cargo of salt and brass rods, for which King Eyo was to pay a certain quantity of oil within a given period. King Eyo failed in doing so; and Mr. Morgan stated to me that Eyo said I told him (Eyo), on my visit in January last, not to pay Morgan until he had paid all the trust he had from other ships, and Mr. Morgan put down the detention of the "Mars" to my having said so. I informed Mr. Morgan that I called the attention of King Eyo, in January last, to the IVth and Vth Articles of the Commercial Treaty entered into on the 17th April, 1852, but did not give any such instruction to King Eyo as he had mentioned.

In keeping in view the contents of your Lordship's despatch of the 9th May last, relative to the system of trade in these rivers, I considered it highly necessary to assemble the King, Chiefs, and traders, to remonstrate with them on their conduct in obtaining trust, which they evidently never intended to repay. The natives of Creek Town were inclined to be insolent to the supercargoes when asked for their trust, they fancying themselves safe from any hostile measures being taken against them by a man-of-war, in consequence of their town being so high up the river, through a rather narrow creek, but where the water was deep.

Without giving trust to these people, it is impossible to trade with them. A vessel belonging to Messrs. C. Horsfall and Sons, of Liverpool (of which T. B. Horsfall, Esq., M.P. for Liverpool, is a partner), named the "Carrow," Captain Thompson, supercargo, arrived in that river in January last, with the intention of trading on the ready-money system, having a choice cargo to meet

the market. At the end of three weeks he had not received one gallon of oil, as the natives would not go near him, in consequence of his not giving any trust; he was then obliged to give in to the system to fill his vessel. This fair trial has shown that unless trust is given, no trade can be made.

As I wished to see King Eyo, I thought it advisable to get the "Minx" to proceed up to Creek Town, to show the natives that a British man-of-war had access to their village. I consulted the supercargoes on the practicability of taking her up there, and they said that, from her light draught of water, it was quite possible, without any danger to the vessel. I accordingly requested Commander Roe to proceed there. In the evening, I am sorry to say, he was attacked with bilious fever.

Friday, October 12.—Commander Roe still unwell, and unable to proceed to Creek Town.

Saturday, October 13.—Commander Roe no better this morning. Considered it advisable to defer going to Creek Town till Monday.

Sunday, October 14.—Commander Roe much the same. Fine clear day.

Monday, October 15.—Commander Roe still unwell. At 8 A.M. supercargoes came on board, and we proceeded for Creek Town; Captain Crompton kindly piloting the vessel through the windings of the creek. The "Minx" proceeded safe up to an anchorage in sight of the town: sent a boat for King Eyo, who shortly afterwards came off in his canoe, accompanied by his brother and several Chiefs. They appeared astonished at one of Her Majesty's ships of war having got up so close to their town. I explained to them that I had come to pay them a visit, to show them that they were within reach of a warship as well as Duke Town. They were very civil and quiet. Arranged with them for a meeting to be held on board the "Minx," at Duke Town, next day, to make arrangements for the payment of the trust due to the British supercargoes. They then took their leave. I am sorry to say the "Minx" grounded as the tide fell, and lay for two hours in that position, but no damage or hurt was received. At 5 P.M. got under way again, and proceeded down to Duke Town, where we anchored at 8.30 P.M. Wrote to Duke Ephraim and Chiefs, requesting they would attend the meeting next day. Commander Roe still suffering.

Tuesday, October 16.—At 11 A.M. King Eyo, Prince Eyo, and Chiefs, with the various supercargoes, assembled. Duke Ephraim sent off a message that he was suffering from an attack of dysentery, and was unable to come off to the ship. The other Chiefs refused to come, in consequence of the Duke being unable. Arranged to go on shore next day and see him, the supercargoes stating that he really was ill, and had been so for some days.

I opened the meeting by reading to King Eyo and his people the letter from the supercargoes; and informed King Eyo that he was acting very unjustly to the supercargoes and English merchants, who had so long been his friends, in sending oil to England, thus defrauding them out of their lawful debts, and transacting business with a perfect stranger.

King Eyo, in reply, stated that he had received cloth, guns, brass-rods, iron-bars, &c., from Mr. Nicoll; that he (Mr. Nicoll) had also paid Duke and himself comeys, the same as the vessels; that this had been a very dry season for oil, in consequence of which he had not been in a position to liquidate his debts, but appealed to the supercargoes if he did not always do so.

I suggested that Eyo should pay his debts in the same manner as he had done before—that was, by giving each ship what he styled a "market," or the quantity of oil brought down from the interior by his canoes at one time.

The King, in reply, said he could not do so; that the white men bothered him too much; that he had no peace from them day or night, from their repeated calls on him for oil.

Captain Davies charged King Eyo with breaking his agreements; that he had broken an engagement with Captain Calvert (now deceased), and whose vessel Captain Davies had now taken charge of, being in the same employ.

I explained to King Eyo and Chiefs that vessels waiting here for trust were incurring very heavy expenses; and at great risk of health for all the crew; that Eyo had no right to ship oil to England till once his trust was paid; and that he, as King, ought to protect the white men who paid him comeys for that protection; and that he ought to make his people who had received trust pay the oil due; that debtors in England, when unable to pay, were put in prison; that

I thought it would be necessary to make an example of one or more of those parties who would not pay, by taking them away to Fernando Po until their friends had paid the debts. This appeared to have the desired effect of startling them. I had occasion to reprimand young Eyo, who has long been spoken of as one who will not pay, and who was insolent when requested to do so.

King Eyo stated that he could not blow "egbo" on his friends, to force payment of their debts; that the only mode left to the supercargoes was to imprison the debtors by detaining the party on board a vessel; but he spoke very strongly against the supercargoes detaining a Creek Town man for a Duke Town man, or *vice versa*. He was quite willing to sign a document to legalise the detention of a Creek Town man for any other Creek Town man who was indebted; and that he was also willing to sign a "book," to pay up his trust in the manner I had suggested to him.

Mr. Morgan here alluded to the case of the "Mars" again, stating that she only required 200 puncheons from King Eyo to fill her up; that her detention was solely from want of Eyo's oil.

I stated that if the "Mars" was paid first, it would be acting very unjustly to the other supercargoes, who had been here for many months previous to the "Mars," and who were certainly entitled to be first paid their trust; that his three vessels would all be paid in turn. Mr. Morgan then asked me if I meant "that Eyo should not pay him." I answered, "I do not say so. You will be paid in your turn." That question he asked me three several times. I said I was there to do justice to one and all; that as the other supercargoes were perfectly willing to abide by my decision as to the payment of King Eyo's debts, which I considered the most advantageous way of clearing them off, I would be guided by the majority.

Mr. Morgan then said, "If that was the case in England when a magistrate tried a thief, and the Court-house most probably filled with thieves, that the majority in that case would be in favour of the prisoner." Captain Thompson requested to know if Mr. Morgan alluded to him as a person of that description. Mr. Morgan then stated that he only spoke comparatively; that he simply protested against such an agreement being made, and that he would apprise his owners of it. The meeting then broke up.

In a conversation a few minutes afterwards with Mr. Morgan, he distinctly stated to me, in the presence of two supercargoes, that "the meeting had been a conspiracy to ruin him." I did not pay much heed to this ebullition of ill-feeling on his part; but on his repeating it a second time in such an insulting manner, on the quarter-deck of Her Majesty's vessel, I immediately applied to Mr. Kerr, the officer of the watch, to order Mr. Morgan out of the vessel. Mr. Kerr went up to Mr. Morgan, when Mr. Morgan said, "Well, Mr. Kerr, do you mean to put that order in execution?" Mr. Kerr answered, "Certainly," when Mr. Morgan immediately went into his boat.

I inclose (Inclosure No. 6) a list of the shipping in Old Calabar, by which it will be seen that Mr. Morgan has three vessels in the river, whose united tonnage amounts to 2,568 tons. The estimate of the oil produced in Calabar in one year is from 4,000 to 5,000 tons, which only exceeds the amount of Messrs. Stuart and Douglas' tonnage by 1,028 tons (4,500 average), leaving only that surplus for the remaining vessels. Commander Roe still unwell.

Wednesday, October 17.—At 6.30 A.M. started in a boat for Creek Town, accompanied by Mr. Kerr, of the "Minx," and Mr. Simpson, my secretary. On arriving at King Eyo's house, he soon made his appearance. His house is not yet thoroughly finished, but is a splendid wooden building, recently sent out from Liverpool. He signed the documents agreed upon yesterday, the originals of which I inclose (Inclosures Nos. 7 and 8). In conversing with him I strenuously urged the necessity of his paying his debts, when, on the whole being liquidated, he would be in a position to dispose of his oil to any one he chose. He listened very attentively to what I said to him, and said he would do so as early as he possibly could; that he had been greatly bothered by the supercargoes, and now saw that he had been misled. I have no doubt that, if the oil season is a good one, he will do so, if in his power. After remaining about an hour, we left, and returned to the "Minx."

At noon, accompanied as before and by the supercargoes, I again left the "Minx," and proceeded on shore at Duke Town to see Duke Ephraim. On arriving at his mud palace, I found him up, and a good deal better than he had

been for some days. I stated that I had called to inquire after his health, and as I had found him improving, I should expect himself and Chiefs to pay me a visit next day, to "talk trade palaver." This was agreed to. Commander Roe, I am sorry to say, has not improved any yet.

Thursday, October 18.—At 10.15 A.M. Duke Ephraim and several of his Chiefs came on board. He was looking very well. The canoes accompanying them were all armed with muskets, &c., being full of men.

The supercargoes informed me that John and Eyo Archibong, two of the principal debtors, had not come on board. I requested the Duke to inform me why they had not come. The Duke answered he did not know. We waited some time, to see if they would come. As I was anxious to leave the river, on account of Commander Roe's sickness, I requested one of the supercargoes to go on shore, and see where they were, and, if possible, to bring them off with him. Captains Davies and Cuthbertson immediately volunteered for that service. They returned in about half-an-hour, stating that they were unable to find them.

Captain Thompson proposed that as these two men had thus insulted Her Majesty's flag, by refusing to come off at my request, they should be in future debarred from trading with any British vessel, or with having any further communication with the shipping. Several supercargoes agreed in this, and were willing to lose what trust was due to them by both parties for that purpose, stating that it would have a most salutary effect on all the natives on future occasions. Hogan, the pilot, and one of the principal men of the river, who is rather better informed than the generality of the people, here rose and said that a report had been circulated in the town to the effect that, if John Archibong went off to the man-of-war he would be seized and detained.

On inquiring who had given rise to this report, Hogan stated that he heard it from a black man, who had heard it from a white man. On further inquiry as to who the white man was, he stated that he would not tell, as it would be prejudicial to his interests.

I here explained to the Duke and Chiefs that any person who came off to any of Her Majesty's vessels under such circumstances never could be detained. After the Duke had consulted with his people for some time, he asked me if I would give him a written document, to guarantee John and Eyo Archibong's return to shore from the "Minx." I immediately acquiesced in this. A document was drawn out, which myself and Mr. Kerr signed. I handed it to Duke Ephraim, who merely took it in his hand and returned it to me, saying I was to keep it. The Duke then said that both John and Eyo Archibong should come on board next day. They then took their departure.

Friday, October 19.—Commander Roe still very unwell. The supercargoes came on board at 10 A.M. They stated to me that the power of Duke Ephraim in Duke Town was now very limited: that the younger Chiefs, John Archibong especially, was the ruler of the place; that the Duke had on many occasions refused to blow "egbo" on any one the supercargoes requested, who was indebted to them. John Archibong came alongside rather early in his large canoe, apparently quite confident. Shortly afterwards the Duke and Chiefs made their appearance. I addressed them on the very bad system they were adopting in taking trust from the merchant ships, which they took on shore and squandered away in idleness, and in upholding some of their old foolish customs.

I then addressed the Duke, more especially with regard to his not enforcing the Egbo Law. I drew his attention to the XVth Article of the Commercial Treaty, wherein it is expressly stated that the house and property of any person who is unable to pay his debts be forfeited and sold, the proceeds to go to the liquidation of his debts. The Duke heard all this patiently and quietly; he had not one word to say—in fact he appeared to be afraid to speak. Captain Davies produced a letter, dated the 12th May, from Duke Ephraim, regarding a native named Black Davies, who had been detained on board Captain Davies' vessel, a prisoner for debt, in which the Duke promised that Captain Davies should be paid in four weeks, but which debt yet remained as before. After a few similar instances of failure in agreements and promises, I stated to the Duke that I was willing to give him one more trial with his "egbo," to see if it was effective, and that I would give him five months for that purpose. This was apparently satisfactory. He signed a document, the original of which I beg to inclose (Inclosure No. 9). The meeting then dispersed.

Saturday, October 20.—With regret I am sorry to say Commander Roe is still confined, and unable to carry on the duties of the vessel. Several of the supercargoes called in the forenoon, to bid farewell. At 3 P.M. got under weigh, Mr. Kerr, acting mate, in charge; Captains Thompson, Straw, and Crompton kindly accompanying us down the river for some distance. Every appearance of a tornado. At 11 P.M. anchored for the evening.

Sunday, October 21.—Commander Roe still very ill, and suffering very much from liver complaint. At 3 P.M. Clarence Cove in sight. Heavy rains, with thunder and lightning. At 10.15 P.M. anchored in Clarence Cove, when I landed.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER,
Acting British Consul for the Bight of Biafra.

Inclosure 2 in No. 57.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Supercargoes of Old Calabar.

Gentlemen,

"Minx," Old Calabar River, October 10, 1855.

I HAVE to inform you that I have arrived here on another Consular visit, in Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "*Minx*," Lieutenant-Commander Roe, for the purpose of inquiring into the state of the river, and the success of British interests here.

Should you have any necessity for my assistance, I have to request you will furnish me with written statements of your grievances at your earliest convenience.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 57.

*Acting Consul Lynslager to the Missionaries of the Church of Scotland,
Old Calabar.*

Gentlemen,

"Minx," Old Calabar River, October 10, 1855.

I HAVE to inform you of my arrival here on a Consular visit, in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Minx*," Lieutenant-Commander Roe.

In the event of your requiring any assistance from me at this time, I beg to request you will furnish me with full and complete written statements of the same at your earliest opportunity and convenience.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 57.

The Rev. W. Anderson to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Duke Town Mission House, October 10, 1855.

I AM in receipt of your circular to the United Presbyterian missionaries in Old Calabar, have read it, and shall forward it to all my brethren.

Should we, on consideration, see that we need your aid in any matter, we shall do ourselves the pleasure of availing ourselves of your kind offer of assistance.

I shall pay my respects in person, when I can get a loan of a boat.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. ANDERSON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 57.

The Supercargoes of Old Calabar to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Calabar, October 11, 1855.

AGREEABLY to your request we now beg to say that we have many causes of complaint against the native traders in this River Calabar.

The principal one is, that when you were here last in Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Antelope," the Duke and gentlemen assembled stated to you that their "egbo" laws were stringent and powerful enough to compel any native trader to pay any debts due to the ships, and that they would put them in force.

In this we regret to say they have utterly failed.

As regards other causes of complaint we think that they could be better explained in presence of the native traders when assembled before you.

We remain, &c.

(Signed) PETER CROMPTON, ship "Sarah," *Stuart and Douglas*.
 JOS. THOMPSON, barque "Garrow," *C. Horsfall and Sons*.
 EDWARD DAVIES, ship "Calabar," *Tyson and Richmond*.
 J. BAAK, Esq., Dutch barque "Eendragt."
 JOS. CUTHBERTSON, *Wilson and Dawson*.

Inclosure 6 in No. 57.

List of Vessels laying in the River Old Calabar, West Coast of Africa, on the 7th October, 1855.

Name of Vessel.	Name of Supercargo.	Port belonging.	Name of Owner.	No. of months out.	Men.	Guns.	Tons.	Remarks.
Calabar ..	E. Davies	Liverpool	Tyson & Richmond	18	9	3	901	C. Calvert, supercargo, deceased.
Sarah	P. Crompton	Ditto	Stuart & Douglas	17	28	...	904	
Mary Winch.	E. Davies	Ditto	J. Baines & Co.	4	13	2	232	Finished loading.
Eendragt ..	J. Baak	Amsterdam	Takener	14	24	4	780	
Thornhill ..	E. Davies	Liverpool	Tyson & Richmond	12	10	...	688	No oil in yet.
Africa	J. Cuthbertson	Ditto	Wilson & Dawson	20	20	2	1,162	
Hants	J. K. Straw	Ditto	C. Horsfall & Son	2	28	1	650	No oil in yet.
Lady Head ..	J. S. Morgan	Ditto	Stuart & Douglas	10	33	...	868	
Ellen Stuart.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	7	..	..	1,350	
Mars	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	7	..	..	350	

J. W. B. LYNLAGER, Acting British Consul.

River Old Calabar, October 17, 1855.

Inclosure 7 in No. 57.

Declaration.

I, KING EYO HONESTY, of Creek Town river, Old Calabar, do hereby promise that in order to liquidate the trust now owing by me to the several supercargoes now laying in this river, that I will in future, from and after this date, pay to the said supercargoes my just and lawful debts in the following order, they being the vessels first in turn for payment, as the oldest outstanding debts; viz:—

- Ship "Sarah," Captain Crompton, supercargo.
- „ "Eendragt," Captain Baak, supercargo.
- „ "Lady Head," Mr. Morgan, supercargo.
- „ "Calabar," Captain Davies for Captain Calvert, deceased.
- „ "Thornhill," Captain Davies, supercargo.
- „ "Africa," Captain Cuthbertson, supercargo.

Ship "Mars," Mr. Morgan, supercargo.
 „ "Ellen Stuart," Mr. Morgan, supercargo.
 „ "Hants," Captain Straw, supercargo.

That each of these vessels shall receive in rotation the produce of one market each, to consist of fifty puncheons of good saleable palm oil.

And I do hereby promise that I will use my utmost endeavours to enforce the payment of all just debts due by the natives of this river to the above-named vessels, at the earliest opportunity of their obtaining oil for that purpose.

Given under my hand at Creek Town river, Old Calabar, this 17th day of October, 1855.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY.

Signed before us, at the King's Palace, Creek Town, this 17th day of October, 1855.

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's*
Acting Consul, Bight of Biafra.
 Howard Kerr, *Acting Mate, "Minx."*
 Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic*
Majesty's Consul.
 Young Eyo Honesty.
 Tom ^{his} Eyo.
 mark.
 John Eyo.

Inclosure 8 in No. 57.

Certificate.

I, KING EYO HONESTY, of Creek Town, River Old Calabar, do hereby certify, that as it is necessary to have recourse to extreme measures for the liquidation of the debts owing to the British supercargoes by the natives of this river, which the supercargoes are unable to obtain, that in future, from and after this date, that I will consider it legal and just for any Creek Town trader to be detained by any supercargo for any debt any other Creek Town trader may owe him (the supercargo), and that the same rule shall hold good for Duke Town; only that no Creek Town man be detained for any Duke Town man, or any Duke Town man be detained for any Creek Town man; and that this shall be sufficient authority for so doing, until instructions be received from Her Britannic Majesty's Government by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po.

Given under my hand at Creek Town, River Old Calabar, this 17th day of October, 1855.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY.

Signed before us, at Creek Town, Old Calabar, this 17th day of October, 1855.

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's*
Acting Consul, Bight of Biafra.
 Howard Kerr, *Acting Mate, Her Majesty's*
steam-vessel "Minx."
 Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic*
Majesty's Consul.
 Young Eyo Honesty.
 Tom ^{his} Eyo.
 mark.
 John Eyo.

Inclosure 9 in No. 57.

Declaration.

I, DUKE EPHRAIM, of Duke Town, River Old Calabar, do hereby promise that in future, from and after this date, that a supercargo making a requisition to me to blow "Egbo" on any native who may owe any vessel, that I will immediately blow such "Egbo" on any such native, and enforce the payment of such debt in the course of five months from this date.

Given under my hand, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," River Old Calabar, this 19th day of October, 1855.

(Signed) King Duke.

his
John X Archibong

mark.

his
Adam X Archibong.

mark.

Thomas Hogan.

his

Egbo X Tom.

mark.

his
Ephraim X Duke.

mark.

his

Auteera X Young.

mark.

his

Black X Davies.

mark.

his

Bassy X Henshaw.

mark.

his

Yellow X

mark.

his

Ephraim X Auteera.

mark.

Signed before us, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," River Old Calabar, this 19th day of October, 1855.

(Signed) J. W. B. Lynslager, *Her Britannic Majesty's
Acting Consul, Bight of Biafra.*

Howard Kerr, *Acting Mate, Her Majesty's
steam-vessel "Minx."*

Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic
Majesty's Consul.*

No. 58.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

(Extract.)

Fernando Po, October 31, 1855.

IN connection with my despatch dated 27th January last, inclosing my Journal of Proceedings in the River Old Calabar, and the destruction of Old Town, in consequence of the representations made to me by the supercargoes and missioneries of the human sacrifices committed at the death of Willy Tom, the Chief of that town, some time previously, and which the King and Chiefs had formerly promised should be abolished, signing two separate Treaties to that effect; I now beg leave to inform your Lordship that on my visit to that river in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," in the early part of this month, I requested both King Eyo and Chiefs, and Duke Ephraim and Chiefs, to inform me if any more human sacrifices had been perpetrated at the demise of the Chiefs who have died since that period. They both most emphatically denied the resumption of that crime, and said "that all that thing was done now;" and that such things could never be done again on any account. King Eyo also stated, that he believed the measures then taken had had a very decided effect in putting a total stoppage to that crime.

I also requested the supercargoes to inform me if they were aware of any renewal of the custom. I beg to inclose their answer.

Inclosure in No. 58.

The Supercargoes of Old Calabar to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Calabar River, October 18, 1855.

WE, the Undersigned, the representatives of British merchants, beg leave most respectfully to inform you, that since the destruction of Old Town, in January last, by Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Antelope*," the sacrifice of human life, to such a frightful extent (which usually took place on the death of a King, Chief, or headman), has been put an end to.

Since January last the following Chiefs have died, namely, Egbo Jack, Antica Cobham, and Mr. Young; and had human sacrifices still been carried on, there would have been at least 140 human beings hurried to an untimely end, to gratify an old, foolish, and superstitious custom.

We cannot but consider the destruction of Old Town as being the means of saving the lives of many poor slaves, who would have been doomed to be sacrificed on the death of their master, but who will now be spared, through the energetic measures you took to prevent a recurrence of such deeds; and we feel assured it is an inestimable benefit to all the natives of this river.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. CUTHBERTSON, *Ship "Africa."*JAMES K. STRAW, *Ship "Hants."*J. BAAK, ESQ., *Dutch Barque "Eendragt."*EDWARD DAVIES, *Ship "Calabar."*JOS. THOMPSON, *Barque "Garrow."*P. CROMPTON, *Ship "Sarah."*

No. 59.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, October 31, 1855.

I BEG leave to inclose herewith a letter I received from Mr. Samuel Edgerley of the River Old Calabar, during my recent visit there, with a copy of my answer thereto.

It was with great surprise that I perused the contents of that letter, with the Minute of the Committee of the Mission, as, on many occasions, they themselves have sent slaves to this Colony, who were in danger in Old Calabar, but who, immediately on arrival here, were at perfect liberty to do as they pleased, so long as they did not infringe the bye-laws of the Colony. To improve the state of the slave cannot, on any consideration, be the object of that Committee, if they wish to put a stop to their being brought here as domestic servants, principally boys and girls from seven to ten years of age; as they (the missionaries) are well aware of the condition of the liberated slaves in Fernando Po, who are allowed to trade on their own account in the produce of the island; to hire themselves out as domestic servants, to whoever may require them; if wishing to get married a piece of land is granted them, to erect a house on; they have no taxes whatever, with the solitary exception of 5 per cent. on imports, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on exports; they are, in a word, perfectly free and untrammelled. This is infinitely superior to a state of slavery in Old Calabar.

It is no rare occurrence, my Lord, for one of Her Majesty's cruisers to pick up a canoe, with from four to eight poor wretched slaves, of both sexes, who have run away from Princes' or St. Thomas's Island, and who have been days without food or water, having no idea of their whereabouts, should the weather be thick, but who brave all this to reach this place of refuge. It is also not unusual for some of these poor beings to sink under the exhaustion, and find a watery grave.

On the 3rd of March, 1852, there were landed here, from Her Majesty's ship "*Harlequin*," by order of Rear-Admiral Bruce, twenty females and eighteen

CLASS B.

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males, from Lagos. The greater number of these females are now respectably married in this Colony; the males, in some instances, are married also, and are trading on their own account; some of the younger boys are apprenticed to ship-carpenters and house-joiners.

A native of Cameroons, who was a slave there, was brought over to this place, some years ago, by the late Mr. Beecroft; this man now has a store in this Colony, ships palm-oil to England, and receives goods in return, every mail-packet. Several others have embarked in the same trade, only in lesser quantities.

I trust, my Lord, this explanation will be perfectly satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, as I presume the Mission Board in Scotland will have been made acquainted by the missionaries of their proceedings, and some correspondence may arise therefrom, which would render necessary this correct statement, which I feel quite certain any naval officer who has visited Fernando Po will vouch for.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 59.

The Rev. S. Edgerley to Acting Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Old Calabar, October 11, 1855.

I TAKE leave to call your attention to the subjoined, extracted from the Minutes of the Committee of the Mission of the United Presbyterian Church at Old Calabar:—

“The attention of the Committee was directed to the fact, that certain parties have, at various times, come hither from Fernando Po, and purchased slaves. It was deemed advisable to call the attention of the Acting Consul to it, as the Committee apprehend that the practice is liable to great abuse, and may involve this country in a violation of the Treaty it made with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, if not directly leading to a renewal of that infamous Traffic.

“The clerk was instructed to communicate this Minute.”

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL EDGERLEY,
Clerk of Committee.

Inclosure 2 in No. 59.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Rev. S. Edgerley.

Sir,

“Minæ,” Old Calabar, October 12, 1855.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of yours dated yesterday, with an extract from the Minutes of the Committee of the United Presbyterian Church at Old Calabar.

In reply thereto, allow me to inform you that I am perfectly cognisant of the fact of male and female slaves being engaged in this place to proceed to Fernando Po, as domestic servants, where they immediately obtain their freedom from slavery, but are retained for a period in the employ of the person who takes them there, till, if a female, married, if a male until he is in a position to obtain his livelihood by his own exertions.

A boy or young man who was recently in your service, was sent to Fernando Po by Mr. Anderson, where he now remains and has the same liberty as any other person there. Fernando Po has always been a refuge from slavery, and the Committee must be aware of that fact.

I cannot for one moment consider that to take a human being who is a slave from his own country to Fernando Po, where on landing he enjoys that freedom which all so earnestly desire, can be a contravention of the Slave Trade Treaty.

I am not aware of any slaves being purchased; a sum of money or a quantity of goods may be paid to the owner of that slave as wages for domestic servants: such is the manner I have always considered them to be engaged.

On any of these persons making a complaint to me, as Governor of the Island, of ill-treatment, I immediately investigate the matter, and if the complaint is correct, remove the party from his employer.

The Committee must also be aware that there are many men and women in Fernando Po, formerly slaves here, who are now married and in good circumstances, who, had they remained here, would have been in a state of slavery.

Several of these parties have been sent over by the Mission, and bear the names of some of the missionaries.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 60.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

(Extract.)

Fernando Po, November 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Lordship's despatch of September 15, relating to the detention of ex-King Pepple at the Island of Ascension.

Your Lordship will observe by my despatch of the 5th of October last,* inclosing my Journal of Proceedings in the River Bonny, that the parties who had been favourable to the return of ex-King Pepple, had been massacred by the parties on the other side, with the exception of those who were saved by Captain Witt, as stated in that despatch. In the event of Pepple returning to Bonny, his life is not worth a moment's purchase. I am perfectly certain that he would be butchered as soon as he landed; his slaves and all his friends are gone, and with them his power. Another civil war would be the result, British property seriously endangered, and should the natives in their excitement attack the ships, not one man belonging to them would be left alive. I have also given the Chiefs my word of honour that he would never return. Should that promise be violated, the British authority is gone and any officer of Her Majesty the Queen would never be trusted.

To maintain the commerce of that river, it is indispensable that Pepple should not return, as on that occurring, everything would be placed in the same position as on my last visit.

I also beg to state that he cannot be allowed to land here, as he then would have opportunities of communicating with the Bonny, and thus cause disturbances.

No. 61.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 5, 1856.

WITH reference to the despatch which I addressed to Mr. Lynslager on the 15th of September last, informing him that Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny, was at liberty to leave the Island of Ascension, I have to instruct you to inform Pepple, that if he should quit Ascension, Her Majesty's Government recommend that he should remain quietly in any part of Africa where he can be in safety. You will state to him distinctly, that Her Majesty's Government cannot, under any circumstances, sanction his proceeding to England, and

that if he should persist in such an intention, he must be prepared to find a passage and to maintain himself and his family at his own expense.

A copy of this despatch will be sent to the Admiralty, for the information of the senior officer at Ascension.

No. 62.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 15, 1856.

WITH reference to Mr. Lynslager's despatch of the 5th October last,* on the subject of the third and last annual present due to King Amacree of New Calabar, I have to instruct you to pay to King Amacree the value of the present due to him in silver dollars, according to his expressed wish, and to reimburse yourself by drawing a bill for the amount, at thirty days' sight, upon the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

You will be careful to give me due notice of your having drawn such bill.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 63.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 21, 1856.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, November 30, 1855.

IN connection with my despatch of the 3rd instant, I beg leave to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter I have addressed to the ex-King Pepple in accordance with your Lordship's instructions to me of the 15th September last, which I hope will have the desired effect.

In consequence of specie not being obtainable here, I have been under the necessity of drawing bills on the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury for the amount of 1,000 dollars, out of the 4,000 due to ex-King Pepple, and have reimbursed Commodore Adams and Mr. Conyngham for their outlay with bills, leaving a balance (of the 1,000 dollars) to Pepple of 93*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and should he remain in Ascension, I would propose that he be paid the remainder in instalments of 1,000 dollars per annum.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNSLAGER.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Acting Consul Lynslager to ex-King Pepple.

Sir,

Fernando Po, November 29, 1855.

I AM desired by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to advise you that you are at perfect liberty to leave the Island of Ascension whenever you can find the means of doing so at your own risk and expense. At the same time I am to show you the great disadvantage you will be under in leaving that place.

In August last there was a Civil rebellion in your former territory. King Dapho had died some days previous, and your two principal adherents, Yaniboo and Ischacco, were charged with poisoning him. Captain Witt, happening to be on shore, took these two men off with him to his ship, with a few servants they had with them. Anne Pepple sent three of his people to Yaniboo's house to ascertain if the report that he and Ischacco had gone was true. These three men were shot by Yaniboo's people. In one moment the townspeople were in arms. A fearful slaughter ensued. The wives, children, and slaves of these two men were all murdered, and I am deeply sorry to inform you that your own people were also sacrificed. Some of them kept possession of your house till the food was exhausted, when they ignited some gunpowder, and thus ended their miserable existence. Your house is pulled down, and the ground has been dug up all over. Your people are all murdered; and the Chiefs of Bonny, assembled in a public meeting convened by me, then and there stated that if you returned to that river they would kill you.

Now, Sir, at your request, you are free; your petition to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria has been acceded to, and you are now at perfect liberty to go where you choose; but I would strongly advise you to remain at Ascension, where the flag of England gives you its protection. You must now be aware that your going to Bonny would be the cause of another disturbance, in which the infuriated people would take your life.

Her Majesty's Government at the same time order me to pay you the sum of 4,000 dollars due to you.

In compliance with that order I inclose you a set of bills of exchange on the Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury for the sum of 93*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* sterling, which, with the sum of 100*l.* sterling I have repaid to Commodore Adams, which he advanced to you some time ago, and 15*l.* sterling for expenses incurred in England by your servant Harvey, make in all 1,000 dollars, leaving due to you a balance of 3,000 dollars, which will be paid to you in instalments.

I fervently hope you will see the great advantages you have by remaining in Ascension.

While I was in Bonny, in September last, I got three of your children in my care whose lives were endangered. They are named, one girl, Ouraba, and two boys, Onu and Oneng-ga-ma. I am awaiting instructions from Her Majesty's Government what I am to do with them, with Yaniboo, and Ischacco, and their servants, who are now here under my protection, and who cannot on any consideration return to the Bonny, the popular excitement being such that they would be instantly murdered.

As a resident in this country for nearly thirty years, let me advise you to remain where you are, that you may now spend your life in quietness, free from the turmoil of a disaffected people. As I am fully and thoroughly acquainted with black men's character, I know the Bonnymen's threats will be fully carried out against you.

In conclusion, I have to inform you that no British naval officer can assist you in leaving Ascension. Should you, after reading this, still remain resolute in doing so, it will lose you the goodwill of the Queen of England, and, if you return to your former seat of power, the result will be as I have said.

You will please to forward me an answer to this at your earliest convenience, so that I may have further communication with Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 64.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Lord Howden,* Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, stating that the Spanish Government wish to bring from Fernando Po to Spain 30 or 40 African lads, who are intended to be educated in a seminary at Aranjuez.

I inclose, also, copies of the answer† which I have returned to Lord Howden, and of its inclosure.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 65.

Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, January 31, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd of November last,‡ acknowledging receipt of my despatch of the 5th of October, relating my proceedings in the Rivers Bonny and New Calabar.

I beg leave to inclose herewith the account of the expenses incurred by me in the maintenance of the two Bonny Chiefs, Yaniboo and Fred Peple, with their attendants; amounting in all to the sum of 45*l.* sterling.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure in No. 65.

Expenses incurred by Acting Consul Lynslager in the maintenance of two Chiefs of Bonny and their attendants at Fernando Po.

	£	s.	d.
TO allowance made to the two Chiefs Yaniboo and Ischacco, or Fred Peple, with seven attendants, at the rate of 1 <i>s.</i> per diem each, from 20th September to 29th December, 1855; 100 days	45	0	0

Fernando Po, December 29, 1855.

No. 66.

Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, January 31, 1856.

I RECEIVED a memorial from the supercargoes of Cameroons on the 8th instant (Inclosure No. 1), with which I at once complied, and proceeded thither in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound" at midnight on the 10th.

Arriving at Cameroons next morning, I found that a local war had been carrying on for some time between the Chiefs of Dido's Town and Acqua's Town.

* No. 313.

† No. 314.

‡ No. 52.

which had put a stop to British trade. Much property had been destroyed in both places, many houses burned, and some slaves, with two freemen, killed.

Without unnecessarily interfering with the feuds of the Chiefs, I had two meetings of all the traders, British and native, on board the "Bloodhound." Not having it in my power to enforce payment for such British property as was destroyed in the late struggle, and which had been given out in trust to the natives for palm oil, I suggested the peaceable settlement of the disturbance. A guarantee was given to the supercargoes that no lives or money would be required as expiation for the two freemen killed in the late contest—a demand that had been made before I came up—by the two Chiefs signing the inclosed document (Inclosure No. 3), and which was likely to cause a renewal of hostilities.

For the better regulation of trading matters, and prosperity of legitimate traffic, this Treaty was drawn out, and willingly signed by all (Inclosure No. 4).

The establishment of a Court of Equity will, I trust, meet your Lordship's approval (Article 2, Inclosure No. 4).

I gave the British supercargoes liberty for the purchase of a piece of land whereon to erect a Court, only on condition of such a step being permitted by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

The Supercargoes of the River Cameroons to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Cameroons River, January 4, 1856.

WE the Undersigned, traders in the Camroons, beg to impress upon you the necessity of an early visit to this river to endeavour to put an end to the hostilities amongst the natives, residents of Acqua Town and Dido's Town respectively.

You were yourself an eye-witness to the commencement of the proceedings; the use of fire-arms was persisted in for the whole of two days, and several deaths and much destruction of property the immediate consequences.

We have unitedly put a stop to the actual war, but still much has to be settled before the river will be in such a state that commerce will be freely resumed; nearly all the principals of Dido's Town are refugees, their houses burned and sacked, and our trust, which is very extensive, in much jeopardy.

We therefore hope that you will be able to visit us in one of Her Majesty's vessels of war as speedily as possible.

We are, &c.
(Signed) W. H. ASHMALL.
DANL. Mc GORRAN.
CHARLES TOWNSEND.
JOHN BOWERBANK.
E. B. ELLIS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

Consul Hutchinson to Lieutenant-Commander Williams.

Sir,

Fernando Po, January 8, 1856.

IN consequence of a requisition received by me to-day from the supercargoes of Cameroons, a copy of which I inclose, I have to request that you will accompany me to that river on the night of the 10th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 66.

Agreement.

WE, John Acqua and Ned Dido, do guarantee, in presence of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, that all palavers in our country being settled up to this day, to ask no reprisal of sacrifice or money for the two freemen killed in the late war, and bind ourselves in default by any penalty the Equity Court may inflict for the due performance of this contract.

Given under our hands on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," Cameroons river, this 14th day of January, 1856.

(Signed) ^{his}
NED X DIDO.
mark.

^{his}
JOHN X ACQUA.
mark.

Witnesses to the marks of Ned Dido and John Acqua :

(Signed) Thos. J. Hutchinson, *Her Britannic Majesty's
Consul for the Bight of Biafra and the Island
of Fernando Po.*

Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic
Majesty's Consul.*

Danl. Mc Gorran, "*Alexander Grant.*"

W. H. Ashmall, "*Sir John Falstaff.*"

John Bowerbank, "*Guilford.*"

E. B. Ellis, "*Tweed.*"

Charles Townsend, "*Nimroud.*"

John Lilley, *Resident.*

^{his}
King X Acqua.
mark.

^{his}
Charlie X Dido
mark.

Inclosure 4 in No. 66.

Byc-Laws for the better Regulation of Trading Matters between the Supercargoes and Native Traders of the River Cameroons, passed at a Meeting held on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound."

Article 1. THAT an Equity Court be established in the River Cameroons, to keep in their integrity the following bye-laws and regulations; and that the Court shall consist of all the supercargoes, as well as of the Kings and traders, of the locality.

Art. 2. That the proposed Court-house be erected and the ground purchased at the joint expense of the supercargoes now trading in the river; to be considered British property, and under the protection of Her British Majesty's Consul, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

Art. 3. That this body have a monthly sitting, unless in special cases, to be summoned at any time; that a supercargo, each in his turn from seniority, be elected Chairman for a month; and that a report of each meeting be forwarded to Her British Majesty's Consul, to Fernando Po.

Art. 4. That these laws now entered into be complied with and respected by supercargoes absent from this river, or this meeting, at the time of their enactment, or afterwards to be here; and any native traders to "come up," to be bound by them also.

Art. 5. That the native Kings and Chiefs pledge themselves, not only to pay their own debts, but to use their influence, each with his respective traders, to do the same, and that for their neglect of this they be subject to a fine, to be settled by the Court.

Art. 6. That any three members of the Court have the power to make an appeal against its decisions, which appeal is to be deferred till the Consul's next visit; and that if, on examining this appeal, it be proved to be frivolous or invalid, the appellants are to be fined in the highest penalty the Court can inflict.

Art. 7. That this Court shall apply the fines levied by it to the expense of its erection and keeping in order, or as the Court assembled may think fit.

Art. 8. That the Kings and Chiefs of Cameroons hereby solemnly pledge themselves to keep inviolate the Anti-Slave Trade Declaration made between Her Majesty's Government and the Kings of Cameroons on the 10th of June, 1840, and to give information to any of Her Majesty's officers in the neighbourhood, of the presence of a slave-trader in Cameroons.

Art. 9. That any supercargo or native, after receiving a formal notice to appear at the Court, refusing to attend, thereby setting the laws of the Court at defiance, shall be fined in the amount of five pieces of cloth, unless he can show clear cause for his absence.

Art. 10. That any native refusing to pay any fine that may be inflicted by the Court, shall be stopped from going on board any ship in the river, either for trade or any other purpose, and any supercargo refusing to pay a fine shall be denied the privileges of the Equity Court.

Art. 11. That in the event of any native trader attempting to evade the penalty of the Court by non-appearance, or otherwise, and notice of such defaulter being sent to all the masters, traders, or supercargoes in the river, such masters, traders, or supercargoes, are hereby bound, under the penalty of 100 crews, to forbid such defaulter coming to his vessel for trade, or under any pretence whatever, and if necessary the final settlement to await the arrival of Her British Majesty's Consul.

Art. 12. That all old palavers shall be considered as settled up to this date, and cannot be again brought forward to the detriment of trade.

Art. 13. That any vessel coming into the river for the purpose of trade shall pay to the King, or headman, of the town at which he may choose to anchor, the amount of ten original crews for every 100 tons of the vessel's register; in special cases, or those of resident agents, their comeys to be according as they may arrange it annually, or otherwise, with the King or headman of the town at which their cask-houses are situated; and under no pretence shall any other King or headman demand any comey or dash whatever from such vessel; and also the said King or headman to supply the said ship with a suitable cask-house, on payment of five crews.

Art. 14. That after the usual payment to the King or headman for the use of the cask-house, if any agent or supercargo can prove that his cask-house has been illegally entered or broken into, and any property stolen therefrom by any of the natives, the said King or headman to be held responsible for the loss.

Art. 15. That any King, Chief, or trader, attempting or threatening to stop the trade of any vessel or supercargo, after the usual comey has been tendered for the privilege of trading, such King, Chief, or trader, shall, at a meeting of the supercargoes, be summoned before the Court to account for such stoppage, and if found guilty of illegal obstruction shall be fined to such an extent as may be agreed upon.

Art. 16. That any person acting as pilot shall receive as compensation, the value of one original crew for every three feet of the vessel's draught.

Art. 17. That whereas several boats have been frequently stopped and taken from alongside ships, and British subjects detained and maltreated, any aggression committed either on property or persons shall be visited by immediate punishment to the parties so offending; a special Court called for the occasion, and the heaviest fine inflicted allowed by the laws.

Art. 18. That the regulations long existing, made by the natives, respecting intentionally watered or fomenting oil, shall still be in force.

Art. 19. That for any breach of any one Article of this Treaty the person or persons so offending be liable to whatever penalty the Judge of the Court may think proper to inflict, not exceeding 20 crews for a native, and not exceeding 300 crews for a master, supercargo or agent.

Art. 20. That any supercargo or native, their employers or followers, appearing at or in the immediate vicinity of the Court-house with fire-arms, or any other offensive weapons, be heavily fined and expelled.

Given under our hands, on board Her Britannic Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," laying in the River Cameroons, this fourteenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

(Signed) Thos. J. Hutchinson, *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra and the Island of Fernando Po.*

G. J. Williams, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound."*

Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*

Danl. Mc Gorran, "*Alexander Grant.*"

W. H. Ashmall, "*Sir John Falstaff.*"

John Bowerbank, "*Guilford.*"

Charles Townsend, "*Nimroud.*"

E. B. Ellis, "*Tweed.*"

John Lilley, *Resident.*

(Signed) King ^{his} ~~X~~ Bell.
mark.
Preso ^{his} ~~X~~ Bell.
mark.
Joss ^{his} ~~X~~
mark.
Jim ^{his} ~~X~~ Quan.
mark.
John ^{his} ~~X~~ Acqua.
mark.

(Signed) King ^{his} ~~X~~ Acqua.
mark.
Charley ^{his} ~~X~~ Dido.
mark.
Ned ^{his} ~~X~~ Dido.
mark.
First Tom ^{his} ~~X~~ Dido.
mark.
Dido ^{his} ~~X~~ Acqua.
mark.

No. 67.

Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, January 31, 1856.

ON my passage from Cameroons to Old Calabar, I stopped for a short time at Bimbia, to inquire if there had been any breach of the agreement made between the King and Chiefs of Bimbia and the Boobies—residents of a few small islands near the Amboises—and sanctioned by Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul on the 7th of February, 1855 (Inclosures Nos. 15 and 16 in despatch of March 3, 1855*).

I am happy to inform your Lordship that no infraction of that Treaty has taken place since its enactment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

No. 68.

Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, January 31, 1856.

I ADDRESSED a letter to the British supercargoes on the 16th instant, the morning after my arrival in the Old Calabar river, and sent written notices of the day and hour of meeting to King Eyo and Duke Ephraim.

It was considered by the supercargoes when they met, that it would be better to leave the alteration or modification of the existing Code of Bye-Laws till the arrival of three supercargoes who were absent, and who are shortly expected to arrive in the river.

I therefore pointed out to the Kings and Chiefs of Creek Town and Duke Town, that the regulations passed under the late Consul Beecroft's sanction, dated 17th April, 1852, the Inclosures Nos. 7, 8, and 9 of Acting Consul Lynslager's despatch dated 31st October, 1855,* were the laws which I had then to ratify and confirm.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

No. 69.

Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, January 31, 1856.

IN compliance with the instructions conveyed in your Lordship's despatch dated November 13, 1855, and received by me in London, I have inquired into the existing disposition of the inhabitants of the Old Calabar district, with reference to the destruction of Old Town by Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope," on the 19th January, 1855, and the prohibition of its re-erection by Acting-Consul Lynslager.

I held a meeting on the 21st instant, in the market-place at Old Town, outside the Mission premises, at which Lieutenant-Commander Williams, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," King Eyo, and the Chiefs of Creek Town, King Duke Ephraim, and the Chiefs of Duke Town, the expelled Chiefs of Old Town, and all the agents of the United Presbyterian Mission, were present.

I told the gentlemen all assembled that I had your Lordship's commands to express entire disapprobation of such barbarities as led to the late proceedings against their town.

On my explaining the amicable intentions of Her Majesty's Government towards them, they expressed their gratitude for it, and signed the inclosed Treaty, to which Kings Eyo and Duke Ephraim also subscribed, as attesting witnesses for its integrity.

I impressed on the two Kings that I would consider their signing this Treaty as security for the Old Town Chiefs, to be equivalent to their declaration to suppress similar practices as much as they could in their respective localities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure in No. 69.

Treaty between Her Majesty the Queen of England and the Chiefs of Old Town, Old Calabar, for the Abolition of Human Sacrifices, the use of the Poison-nut, and the practice of killing Twin Children.

THOMAS JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra and the Island of Fernando Po, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and the Chiefs of Old Town, Old Calabar, on the part of themselves and their country, have agreed upon the following Articles and conditions:—

ARTICLE I.

That the practice of killing human victims in sacrifice for the dead, by poison-nut or otherwise, as prohibited by Egbo law, be from this time abolished in all parts of the country belonging to Old Town.

ARTICLE II.

That the use of the poison-nut as an ordeal, unless by the concurrence of the Chiefs of the other towns, and the practice of killing twins, be also abolished;

nor shall any child on the death of its mother be buried with her, nor allowed to perish through neglect, but be handed over to the care of the Scottish missionaries at Old Calabar.

ARTICLE III.

That no Europeans or other persons shall ever be permitted to carry on the Slave Trade within the territory of Old Town, but that the Treaty of the 6th December, 1841, be maintained in all its integrity.

ARTICLE IV.

That no favour nor privilege shall be given to the ships and traders of other countries, that are not given to British traders, and that the missionaries receive every protection.

ARTICLE V.

That the Chiefs of Duke Town and Creek Town be empowered to watch over the fulfilment of this Treaty, and hereby subscribe their names as proof of their willingness to do so; that in case of its infraction, proved before the Consul, the punishment for its transgression be left in his hands.

ARTICLE VI.

That depending on the sincerity of the Chiefs of Old Town to keep this Treaty perfectly, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul hereby recalls the interdict which prohibited the rebuilding of Old Town on its former site, and grants full liberty for its reoccupancy.

Agreed to at Old Town, Old Calabar, this twenty-first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

(Signed) Ephraim ^{his} ~~X~~ Cobham.
mark.

Akum, for Otto ^{his} ~~X~~ George.
mark.

Young Otto ^{his} ~~X~~ George.
mark.

(Signed) Archibong ^{his} ~~X~~ Assemin.
mark.

Archibong ^{his} ~~X~~ Assein.
mark.

Signed before us, at Old Town, River Old Calabar, this 21st day of January, 1856.

(Signed)

Thos. J. Hutchinson, *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Biafra and the Island of Fernando Po.*

G. B. Williams, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound."*

Thos. M. Simpson, *Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*

King Eyo Honesty.

King Duke Ephraim.

No. 70.

Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, January 31, 1856.

DURING my stay at Old Calabar, I received a communication from the Rev. Mr. Anderson, to which I replied on the same day. With only two parts of his application in which I deemed myself legally authorized to interfere, I complied. I bound over two Sierra Leone men resident there named Paul and Boyd, the first in a penalty of 5*l.*, and the second in a penalty of 10*l.*, to keep the peace towards their wives.

The ten persons whose names are in the list were each furnished with a

manumission paper, in this form, with my Consular seal and signature attached.

Having no form of this kind within my reach, I hope your Lordship will approve of that which I adopted.

I think it necessary to inform your Lordship that the term “dashed” is an Anglo-African expression for “made a present of.”

I also inclose herewith copies of two addresses which were presented to me on board the “Bloodhound,” while in Calabar, with the replies which I gave to both.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 70.

The Rev W. Anderson to Consul Hutchinson.

Duke Town Mission House,

Old Calabar, January 18, 1855.

Sir,

HAVING received intimation of your being here on an official visit, I feel it but right to call your attention to a few particulars concerning matters here.

In the Blue Book, Class A, relating to the Slave Trade, from April 1, 1854, to March 31, 1855, on page 159, I find what purports to be an Article of a Treaty, in which the Old Calabar gentlemen bind themselves “to give all twin children born in the country to the care of the Scottish missionaries resident in the river” [country?] with the view of their being transmitted to Fernando Po. None of “the Scottish missionaries” were present at the meeting at which this Article of Treaty was made; they were, in effect, excluded from the meeting, and I humbly submit that no such arrangement should have been made without their concurrence. Not one of them so much as received any official notice of the existence of such an arrangement. The Article referred to must have been meant to apply specially to this station; King Eyo having previously made provision for saving the lives of twins born at Creek Town. I may add that the natives do not appear to pay any attention to the provision made, no twins having been brought to our care during the eleven months which have elapsed since the Article was made.

Further, I beg to state that I decidedly object to my being made an agent in the separation of newly-born infants from their mothers, and their expatriation, unless convinced (which I am not) that in no other and better way could their lives be saved.

2. There are several British subjects resident in this neighbourhood, who, thinking themselves beyond the pale of magisterial jurisdiction, are in the habit of barbarously beating their wives. The wives being also British subjects, I humbly crave your good offices on their behalf.

3. The natives say that they engaged with ex-Acting Consul Lynslager to abolish the private administration of the ordeal of the “esere,” or poison-beau—that it should not again be administered, except in the presence of native chiefs, missionaries, and river gentlemen, in public meeting assembled. There are, however, some persons who doggedly adhere to the old system; and from one of these, three persons fled, some time ago, to this place for refuge. The Duke Town authorities seem either unable or unwilling to afford them protection. I have to request your interference for the protection of the three refugees.

4. Several of the customs of the country are incompatible with the profession of Christianity, and on their account the native converts are sometimes placed in trying circumstances. Of these customs the native form of taking an oath is one. It consists of a solemn appeal to an object of superstition called “mbiam,” and cannot consistently be taken by any Christian; no Christian would consider such an oath binding on his conscience as an oath. I understand that King Eyo has expressed his willingness to allow members of the church at Creek Town to take oath in a Christian manner. The authorities of Duke Town will not permit this, however, and about two months ago several members of the church here were compelled, under penalty of forfeiture of all their property, and deprivation of their Egbo privileges, to swear by “mbiam.” This was, both to them and to me, a great grievance.

In remembrance of Lord John Russell's famous and spirit-stirring letter in behalf of the Madias, viewing England as the champion of civil and religious liberty throughout the world, and you, Sir, as England's representative, I feel it at once my duty and my privilege to request you to use your influence with the Duke Town authorities, to induce them to refrain, in time to come, from violating that liberty of conscience which ought to be freely accorded to all, and especially to converts to Christianity.

5. There are several emancipados in my household, some of them emancipated by purchase, others "dashed" (made presents) to us in their infancy, on the death of their mothers. I should be glad to be informed as to what steps I should take to secure their permanent freedom. If it would be of any service to them, or if required by any British law to forward you a list of their names, &c., I shall be most happy to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. ANDERSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 70.

Consul Hutchinson to the Rev. W. Anderson.

Reverend Sir, "Bloodhound," River Old Calabar, January 18, 1856.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, and shall forward it to the Foreign Office, in my next despatch to Lord Clarendon, directing his Lordship's attention to the first section of your communication.

With reference to the second—of British subjects beating their wives, it is only required for these women to make an affidavit before me, and I shall bind the guilty husbands over in a penalty to keep the peace towards them.

I have no evidence—oral or testimonial—of the natives having given any promise to Acting Consul Lynslager "to abolish the administration of the poison-nut, or of their determination not again to administer it, except in the presence of a public meeting of native Chiefs, river gentlemen, and missionaries." But anxious as I am to have an enactment of this kind made law during my present visit, I shall use my influence for the protection of these three refugees, in any way you suggest.

I regret that I cannot interfere in the matter of "mbiam," referred to in the fourth part of your letter. The instructions of my Commission, as well as those received at the Foreign Office, do not justify me in meddling with matters that I consider out of the pale of my diplomatic duties.

I certainly shall use my influence with the authorities of Duke Town, to induce them to refrain, in time to come, from violating that liberty of conscience which, as you say, ought to be freely awarded to all. The greatest obstacle I fear I shall have to encounter in such an attempt, will be to make them understand what "liberty of conscience" means, bearing especially on converts to Christianity.

I shall make out manumission-papers for any number of persons whose names you forward to me, and whose identities you afford me opportunity to associate with the names.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 70.

The Rev. W. Anderson to Consul Hutchinson.

Dear Sir,

*Duke Town Mission House,
Old Calabar, January 21, 1856.*

ACCORDING to your instructions, I herewith send you a list of the young people connected with my household, originally slaves, but redeemed, some by purchase, and others by being dashed to us by their owners, on the death of their mothers, while they were in infancy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. ANDERSON.

P.S.—I have directed the three refugees to be at Old Town to-day.

Inclosure 4 in No. 70.

NAMES of Free Persons connected with Duke Town Mission House, being Natives of Old Calabar or neighbouring countries, redeemed from Slavery.

English names.	Native names.	Born in or brought from	Age.	Marks.
1. Mary Taylor Anderson .	Asuna	Egbo Shary ..	About 20 years	None.
2. Sarah Anderson . ..	Iqua Esian ..	Efik	" 18 "	"
3. Agnes Tod	Mbodio	Ibo	" 10 "	"
4. Andrew Somerville ..	Eni	Efik	" 6 "	"
5. John Gray	Ered	Ditto	" 3 "	"
6. Thomas Hogan	Efiong	Ditto	" 2 "	"
7. Joseph Jameson . ..	Ekpe	Mburikam ..	" 15 "	"
8. Isabella Elliot	Myang	Egbo Shary ..	" 12 "	"
9. Janet Anderson . ..	Angwa Okun ..	Ditto	" 18 "	"
10. Anna Miller Anderson..	Iqua	Efik	Nine months	"

January 21, 1856.

WILLIAM ANDERSON,
Missionary of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

Inclosure 5 in No. 70.

Declaration.

To all to whom these presents come, greeting.

KNOW ye, that Mary Taylor Anderson, aged about twenty years, whose country name is Asuna, and who was born at Egbo Shary, has been this day declared before me to have been originally a slave, but to be now manumitted. This is therefore to declare that fact to all whom it may concern, and to forbid any one, into whose hands she may come, from again making her a slave, under the pain of incurring the displeasure of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and of suffering such penalty as the Government may attach to such a step.

Given under my hand, at Duke Town, River Old Calabar, this 22nd day of January, 1856.

(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON,
*Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra,
and the Island of Fernando Po.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 70.

The Chiefs of Old Calabar to Consul Hutchinson.

Dear Sir,

Duke Town, Old Calabar, January 19, 1856.

WE, the undersigned Chiefs of Duke Town, desire to express our gratification that you have arrived among us as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra. One thing makes us glad, namely, that you are no stranger among us. You are well acquainted with our country and our fashions. And we are glad also, because we know, from what we have seen of you already, that you will do what is just between man and man.

Should any palaver come up between us and any of the gentlemen in the river, we feel assured that you will not take black man's side more than white man's side, or white man's more than black man's. If white man be wrong you will tell him so, if black man be wrong you will tell him so.

We are very thankful to Queen Victoria for sending you out to this place as her Consul. We have always been friends for England, and we always wish to continue so.

We shall always be glad to hear any good advice from you on trade matters, or any other matter; and we hope you will live a long time, to do good to Old Calabar, and all the other places over which the Queen has made you Consul.

We are, &c.

(Signed)	King Duke Ephraim.	(Signed)	Yellow Duke.
	John Archibong.		Ephraim Boco Duke.
	Thomas Hogan.		William Duke.
	Black Davies.		Ephraim Duke.
	Adam Archibong.		John Ephraim.
	Egbo Tom.		Do-dar-nar.
	Antero Young.		Bass Africa.
	George Duke.		Offerong Archibong.
	Bass Henshaw.		

P.S.—All Duke Town gentlemen be glad to see you.

Inclosure 7 in No. 70.

The Missionaries of the Church of Scotland, Old Calabar, to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Old Calabar River, January 22, 1856.

WE, the agents of the United Presbyterian Church Mission in Old Calabar, beg to express to you our sincere gratification that you have been selected to fill the important office of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for this region of the globe, and on this, your first official visit to this river, to congratulate you on your appointment.

Most of us had formerly opportunity of forming acquaintance with you, and are fully persuaded that you will, with all uprightness of purpose, endeavour to discharge the important duties devolving on you, in such a manner as shall do honour to your office, and justify the confidence reposed in you by Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

Your knowledge of that part of the West African coast placed under your Consular authority, will greatly aid you in the efficient performance of your important trust, in such a manner as will secure all confidence in your judgments, both from the native tribes, and from our fellow-subjects trading with or resident among them.

As agents of a Christian Mission, we cannot, of course, expect or desire any display of the physical power with which you are armed, as aid to us in the work of evangelizing and civilizing the tribes among whom we labour; but as the Representative of England, you possess a vast moral influence over the native tribes inhabiting this portion of Africa, and this influence we feel assured you will, with all prudence, employ towards the abolition of many inhuman practices which still prevail amongst them.

We trust that a prolonged course of usefulness is before you, in this and the surrounding regions; and commending you to the keeping and guidance of Him by whom "Kings reign and Princes decree justice," we are, &c.,

(Signed)

HOPE M. WADDELL.
WM. ANDERSON.
HUGH GOLDIE.
SAMUEL EDGERLEY.
ALEXR. SUTHERLAND.
JOHN R. WYLIE.
ARCHIBALD HEWAN, *Surgeon.*
JAMES HADDISON.

Inclosure 8 in No. 70.

Consul Hutchinson to the Missionaries of the Church of Scotland, Old Calabar.

Rev. Sirs and Gentlemen,

Old Calabar River, January 22, 1856.

YOUR address just presented to me, has brought up many agreeable recollections of my first visit to Africa. Amongst them none are more pleasing than the remembrance that it was made to Old Calabar, where the privileges, and, I trust, many spiritual advantages, were mine, of forming an acquaintance with many respected members of your body.

I have come out to discharge the duties incumbent on the high position entrusted to me by Her Majesty's Government, resolved, by the aid of Him without whose grace man's resolutions are nothing, to show no fear, and be guilty of no favour or affection towards any class of men; but to do justice, as far as I have power, without distinction of race or colour, to all within my Consular authority. Without unnecessarily interfering in local prejudices, it shall ever be my duty to point out to the natives how their barbarous superstitions stand as barriers to the development of the industrial resources of their country. With this shall also be exercised such moral influence as I possess, to impress on them my belief that Christianity and civilization are cause and effect in raising up Africa from her present condition of helpless infancy, to the health and vigour of manhood.

That you may all succeed in the glorious work which you have undertaken, namely, engraving on the minds of the rising generation within the sphere of your labours the doctrines of Him who came upon earth "to preach peace and good-will amongst men," is my fervent prayer.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

No. 71.

Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 2, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated December 7, 1855, informing me that in reply to your Lordship's representation to the Admiralty, a letter had been received stating that directions had been given to Commodore Adams to provide a man-of-war to enable me to visit the rivers in the Bight of Biafra once in three months, if the other exigencies of the station will admit of his doing so.

Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," which has accompanied me to Cameroons and Old Calabar, steamed away to-day from Clarence Cove at 2 P.M., to assist Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Hecate," the vessel of the senior officer of the Bights, which has grounded on Lagos bar; and as my presence is required in Bonny to investigate further matters relative to the burning of the ships "Martha" and "Saracen," as well as of the plundering of the wrecks by the natives, I have written an application to the senior officer of the Bights, requesting him to send me back the "Bloodhound" as soon as he can. With it I have

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inclosed to him a copy of your Lordship's despatch acknowledged in the first part of this.

Meanwhile I am proceeding in the mail-steamer "Gambia" to Old Calabar, which will return here before her departure to England. The business which calls me there is to demand the restoration of sixteen puncheons of palm oil, which a British supercargo forcibly and unlawfully took possession of, although knowing it to be the property of another British subject, a negro trader from Sierra Leone.

I shall forward to your Lordship his Excellency Governor Hill's despatch to me on the subject by the next mail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure in No. 71.*

Consul Hutchinson to the Senior Officer of the Bights Division.

Sir,

Fernando Po, February 2, 1856.

I HAVE to request you will permit the "Bloodhound" to return here as soon as possible, or send me some other steamer equally suitable for an ascent of the rivers within my jurisdiction.

My presence is required in Bonny to investigate matters connected with a recent burning of two merchant-vessels, the "Martha" and "Saracen," as well as in Brass, to make an Anti-Slave Trade and a Commercial Treaty there, with the Chiefs of that locality.

I inclose you a copy of a despatch received from Lord Clarendon, per steamer "Gambia."

I am, &c.
(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

No. 72.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve the form of manumission certificate granted by you to the 10 persons referred to in the letter from the Rev. W. Anderson, of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of the 31st of January last.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 73.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 29, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st of January,† inclosing a copy of the Treaty signed on the 21st of that month by you and the Chiefs of Old Town, Old Calabar, and I have to state to you that there are two points in the IInd Article of that Treaty which require explanation, namely: 1st. With regard to the circumstances under which you admitted into that Article the exception which allows the use of the poison-nut as an ordeal, upon the concurrence of the Chiefs of the other towns; and 2ndly. With reference to the protest which Mr. Anderson addressed to you on the 18th of January, 1856, against the stipulation contained in Mr. Lynslager's Treaty with Old Calabar, of January 18, 1855, providing that the twin children borne by natives of that place should be consigned to the care of the Scottish missionaries.

I have to request that you will inform me whether the Scottish missionaries at Old Calabar gave their assent to the concluding part of the above-mentioned Article of your Treaty of the 21st of January, 1856, which provides that children, on the death of their mothers, shall not be buried with them, but be handed over to the care of the Scottish missionaries at Old Calabar.

If the missionaries have given such assent, this provision is, of course, free from all objection; and with reference to the other Articles of the Treaty of January 21, 1856, I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that they are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 74.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hutchinson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve of your having bound over the two Sierra Leone men, Paul and Boyd, resident at Old Calabar, in the sum of 5*l.* and 10*l.* respectively, to keep the peace towards their wives, as reported in your despatch of the 31st of January last.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 70.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Liberia*.

No. 75.

Consul Newnham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received March 19.*)

My Lord,

Monrovia, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of four despatches addressed by me to the senior officer of Her Britannic Majesty's navy, Sierra Leone.

I beg to state that the aforesaid despatches contain all the information I have gleaned respecting the Slave Trade during this year, 1855.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 75.

Consul Newnham to the Senior Officer, Sierra Leone.

Sir,

Monrovia, September 10, 1855.

THIS day personally appeared before me, at my office in this town, J. Frederickson, master of the Hamburgh schooner "Liberia," and stated as follows, viz.:—

That on or about the 29th of last month (August), there came on board his vessel, the "Liberia," whilst at anchor off Sinou, a port of entry in the Republic of Liberia, one Domingo Mustich, master of the schooner "Mariana," from Havana, flying Spanish colours from the said vessel "Mariana," then laying-to in the offing, and made inquiries as to trade, and whether slaves were to be obtained, &c.

It is the opinion of the master of the "Liberia" that the "Mariana" is about to take in slaves.

On the 19th of last month (August) came to anchor in this port of entry an American vessel of suspicious appearance, the "Alexander Mitchell," from New York, whose owner has been engaged in the Slave Trade: foremast square; main and mizenmast schooner rigged; supercargo a Spaniard. I transmit the "Liberia Herald," No. 9, of August 22, 1855, wherein is an article respecting an American vessel of suspicious appearance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 75.

Consul Newnham to the Senior Officer, Sierra Leone.

Sir,

Monrovia, November 10, 1855.

THIS day personally appeared before me, at my office in this town, J. Frederickson, master of the Hamburgh schooner "Liberia," and stated as follows, viz.:—

That at daybreak, November 4, 1855, whilst sailing from Nanna-kroo to Tembo, he espied a brigantine laying-to, head northward, and that after he had hoisted the Hamburg flag, the said brigantine steered southward.

Further, that the said brigantine was of suspicious appearance, her copper being painted white, her bulwarks black, with a red streak, and having a greater number of hands on board than is usual for vessels of like size trading on this coast.

Lastly, that when he cast anchor at Tembo, he learnt that a canoe had been sent on shore to Gibou for Kroomen, and that the said brigantine was bound for Loanda.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 75.

Consul Newnham to the Senior Officer, Sierra Leone.

Sir,

Monrovia, December 3, 1855.

I HAVE learnt that the "*Alexander Mitchell*," the vessel I made mention of to you in my despatch of September 10, 1855, has recently shipped 500 slaves a little below Cape Palmas; and I beg to state that the report is fully credited.

Could Her Majesty's cruisers visit Monrovia more frequently, it is the universal opinion here that, in a short time, one or more prizes would be taken as slavers. Though they may not procure slaves within the jurisdiction of this Republic, they occasionally touch at this port, gain information respecting Her Majesty's ships, and thereby are enabled to escape, with greater surety, capture.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 4 in No. 75.

Consul Newnham to the Senior Officer, Sierra Leone.

Sir,

Monrovia, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the brig "*Zeno*," of New York, (the property of the owner of the "*Alexander Mitchell*," the vessel I made mention of to you in my despatches of September 10 and December 3, 1855), anchored off Cape Mesurado, December 18, 1855.

I have learnt that one Luscombe commands the "*Zeno*," and that he is the son of the captain of the "*Alexander Mitchell*."

Further, that the name of the supercargo is Sanchez; that he is a native of Cuba; and that he has been five years a clerk to Pietro Blanco, of Slave-Traffic notoriety.

Lastly, the "*Zeno*" left this port, I believe, for the Island of Matacon, December 29, 1855.

I personally communicated with Commander Phillips, of Her Britannic Majesty's steamer "*Alecto*," December 28, 1855, respecting the aforesaid subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Sherbro River.*

No. 76.

Consul-General Hill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 12.)My Lord, *Government House, Sierra Leone, September 20, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to forward the inclosed letter, with inclosures, addressed to your Lordship by Mr. Hanson.

I beg to assure your Lordship that I have noticed with regret the Consular Agent's Report of the active Traffic carried on in transporting domestic slaves from the rivers in the neighbourhood of the Sherbro to the north of this colony, and it shall be my anxious duty to prevent, as far as possible, this transit.

I hope to secure the services of the steamer "*Dover*," now at the Gambia, about the month of November next, when I purpose visiting the Sherbro, that I may judge for myself the state of affairs on that part of the coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 76.

Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Extract.)

Victoria, Sherbro Island, July 4, 1855.

I DO myself the honour to submit, for your Lordship's information, my Report upon the condition of the Slave Trade in the Sherbro country and the adjacent districts during the past six months.

The indigenous Slave Trade—if I may so designate it—is, if possible, more actively prosecuted than ever; and this becomes a matter of commercial and political importance, inasmuch as the countries which yield the produce in which the British market is interested are just those to which the Susoos and Mandingos resort, and they are there in very great numbers. They have acquired such influence in the country, that they have, it appears, established a system of terrorism, by means of which the British subjects trading in the neighbourhoods which they frequent are compelled altogether to avoid coming to me, lest it should be suspected that they come to give me information respecting the former, the consequence of which would be that our fellow-subjects would be expelled those neighbourhoods. Very many of the Susoo and Mandingo canoes have already obtained cargoes, and passed out of these waters, but many also are constantly passing into the rivers.

Your Lordship will see, from the inclosed copies of despatches, that I have not failed to communicate whatever trustworthy information I have received, to the British naval officers accessible to me, and to his Excellency the Acting Governor of Sierra Leone. It only remains for me to assure your Lordship that my information was derived from sources entirely reliable, many of the witnesses actually seeing whereof they affirmed. I have myself also seen no less than twenty canoes during the six months, which were reported to me as containing slaves.

It appears to me that the character of the Sherbro Treaty—with reference

to the question of this indigenous Slave Trade—is, in the last degree, serious. If the native slave-dealers are permitted to trample on that Article of the Treaty which provides for their capture under given circumstances in these waters (and they certainly do trample on the Treaty, if they can come here and buy and carry away slaves with impunity), not only will the prestige still attaching to Her Majesty's service be soon blown to the winds, but the very name of the British Government itself will become a laughing-stock to these semi-savages. On the ground of policy, therefore, my Lord, it deserves attention.

On the ground of expediency, too, it is of great importance to consider what is to be done, as it involves the interests of Her Majesty's subjects trading here. The traffic in palm oil, palm kernels, and rice, cannot co-exist with the Slave Trade; and if the latter be not put down, it will soon extinguish the former. The one is the calling of the Chiefs, the other the occupation of the people; and in the same proportion as the Chiefs dominate, their calling will bear down the people's occupation. If, indeed, my Lord, the people knew their power—if they knew that it is even by themselves that their Chiefs oppress them—there would be no difficulty, there need be no apprehension for the results of a fair competition between the Slave Trade and the commerce in produce. But the people do not know their power; and because they do not, we have the result it is my painful duty to report to your Lordship.

Again, on the ground of humanity it commends itself to consideration; for it may be questioned if—either in its direct character and concomitant circumstances, or in its results—the trans-oceanic Slave Trade is worse than, if so bad as, the Foulah land-traffic.

It ought perhaps, indeed, my Lord, to have been deliberately weighed what might be the probable effect upon the destinies of the Colony of Sierra Leone, before any such provision was inserted in the Sherbro Treaty. That question is now, however, no longer open. It is an Article in the Treaty. The question, therefore, now is, is it expedient, is it humane, is it politic, to suffer it to become worse than a dead letter, by degenerating into an element of mischief?

With reference to the foreign Slave Trade, and the reported presence of the two hitherto notorious prosecutors of it referred to in the inclosures, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that among my informants are persons of entire probity, and that the information obtained from them has been subsequently corroborated by the admissions of some of the native Chiefs themselves.

The people in and about the Gallinas would have a manifest interest in concealing the fact, or their knowledge of it, from British naval officers—at least until such time as they might hope that the disclosure would benefit them.

For the sake of humanity, for the well-being of this country, and in regard to the interests of the lawful traders, I shall but too truly rejoice to find that I have been misinformed, and that neither of those mischief-makers has been near here.

Respecting the alleged visit of the Spanish vessel (so called) to the Turtle Islands, I am certain of the correctness of my information. Of the nationality of the vessel, I cannot, of course, affirm. But that a vessel, said by the natives to be a slaver, was there for eighteen days; that in that very interval the Susoo and Mandingo canoes were very active; and that, during the period of her being at the Turtle Islands, a Spanish gold coin found its way from the same neighbourhood to one of the English factories here, is indisputable; and I think, my Lord, that a fair inference may be drawn from a combination of these facts.

I do myself the honour, in conclusion, to add that your Lordship may rely upon my not relaxing in my endeavours to obtain all the information I can, and to communicate it to the officers of Her Majesty's naval service whom I may have the means of reaching.

Inclosure 2 in No. 76.

Consul Hanson to Commander Heseltine.

Sir,

Victoria, Sherbro Island, January 29, 1855.

HAVING occasion to suppose that the vessel which is referred to in the inclosed despatch was Her Majesty's ship under your command, I do myself the honour to forward it for your information; and I avail myself of the opportunity to inform you that it would appear, from information which has reached me, that two slave-vessels are hovering about the Gallinas, and that Crispo is in the neighbourhood of Cape Mount and Manor Rock, endeavouring to arrange for the purchase of cargoes for those vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 76.

Consul Hanson to the Commander of Her Majesty's Ship off Seabar.

Sir,

Victoria, Sherbro Island, January 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that it has just been reported to me that Her Majesty's ship, under your command, anchored at Seabar yesterday, and I therefore beg to inquire if there be any service which I can render you.

I do myself the honour to state to you that if your presence in this vicinity has any connection with an effort to suppress the canoe-transport Traffic in Slaves, so rife here, those canoes do not pass out at Seabar, but by way of the entrance to this water, between the Yaltucka River and the Turtle Islands. They are very active just now. Two canoes, with heavy cargoes, passed out on Tuesday, two on Monday, and one on Sunday last. They pass at night, and probably reach the sea about daylight.

Hoping you may succeed in arresting several, and so be instrumental in doing much to check the abominable Traffic, I have, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 76.

Consul Hanson to Acting Governor Dougan.

Sir,

Victoria, Sherbro Island, March 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that many Susoo canoes are again crowding into the Kittam and Gallinas countries, and that I have reason to fear that there is great probability of serious disturbances arising out of their presence there, the result of which must inevitably be the stoppage of the legitimate trade with those districts, and consequent serious detriment to the interests of British traders.

I cannot but regret that the impression should have been given you that the stoppage of the Susoo and Mandingo intercourse—for slave-trading purposes—with the Sherbro, would be disadvantageous to lawful trade. It appears that events are approaching which will bring to issue the value and correctness of the opinions which I entertain, and have had the honour to express, or of those which, as I have reason to believe, have been expressed to your Excellency from other sources.

I regret that at this juncture I have heard of the death of John Fortune, late a Chief in the Kittam, who had recently signed the Treaty in Sierra Leone. Your Excellency is aware that the Treaty so signed had never been promulgated by Fortune, and that it may therefore be fairly questioned whether the observance of the stipulations of that Treaty can be enforced in Kittam.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 76.

Consul Hanson to Acting Governor Dougan.

(Extract.)

Victoria, Sherbro Island, March 9, 1855.

IT is probably known to your Excellency that some few months since Prince Mannah, Chief of the Gallinas, paid a visit to Callamoodoo, a Chief in Bullam, at Loongi, on the Bullam shore. You may also be aware that when Prince Mannah was returning to the Gallinas, by the way of Sierra Leone and the Sherbro, Callamoodoo sent his brother Senesi with six large canoes, to escort (as it was pretended) that Chief on his return home.

I have the honour to inform your Excellency that, under the semblance of paying a compliment to a respected friend (so, at least, there is reason to believe), Callamoodoo entered into arrangements with Mannah for carrying on the Trade in Slaves: for one of the canoes which came here and went to the Gallinas with Prince Mannah, has already returned, laden with (as I am informed, 45) slaves; and it is very highly probable that the remaining five canoes, together with others which, it is said, Callamoodoo is to send, and has sent, to Prince Mannah, are all destined to take away slaves.

It appears to me, Sir, that the time is come for Her Majesty's Government to take measures respecting Gallinas, and to determine whether that district is to be regarded as pertaining to the Republic of Liberia, or whether Prince Mannah is to be treated as an independent Chief, and to be required to observe the provisions of the many Treaties into which he has entered with Her Majesty's Government; for I conscientiously hold the opinion which I had the honour to express to his Excellency Rear-Admiral Bruce, the late Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on this coast, shortly after my arrival at this post, that "as long as the Gallinas is an unoccupied district"—that is, not embraced in some British Consular district—"so long and so surely will opportunity be afforded for the revival [and continuance] of the Slave Trade."

I have been informed that Pedro Blanco and Pablo Crispo have both been very recently in the Gallinas, and that they went a considerable way into the interior.

Inclosure 6 in No. 76.

Consul Hanson to Commander Heseltine.

Sir,

Victoria, Sherbro Island, March 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your kind note of the 8th instant this day at noon, by the hand of Lieutenant Staples and Mr. Haines; and, in reply, I beg to inform you that, since I had the honour to address you last, I have heard that both Crispo and Blanco have been in the Gallinas, and that they went into the interior to make arrangements for the purchase of slaves, who, it is supposed, are to be transported by canoes to the northward, whence they will be shipped. This report, however, may be designedly set on foot to mislead as to the true scent. It is reported that Crispo and Blanco have left the coast about two weeks ago, for the present, but only for a time. Solyman and Manor Rock were the places where the vessel were seen: a brig, and, apparently, an American.

Prince Mannah, of the Gallinas, is endeavouring to find an excuse for disturbing the country; and I have no doubt that it is with the double object of enabling him and his compeers the more readily to get slaves to supply the demand, and of compelling the traders to leave the rivers, so that no intelligence may be communicated of their movements.

Should I learn anything further, or more definite, I will not fail to communicate with you without loss of time.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 76.

Acting Governor Dougan to Consul Hanson.

Sir,

Government House, Sierra Leone, May 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letters of the 3rd, 9th, and 21st March, informing me of many Susoo canoes again crowding into the Kittam and Gallinas countries, and that you had reason to fear that serious disturbances might probably arise from their presence, the result of which would inevitably be the stoppage of the legitimate trade with those districts, and consequent serious detriment to the interests of British traders.

2. This state of things is greatly to be regretted. The only means I have at present of crippling this traffic is by the aid of men-of-war stationed upon this part of the coast. I have frequently applied to the Commanders to proceed to that neighbourhood, which they have done without effect.

3. I have also represented to the Commodore the necessity of sending a cruizer to the Sherbro, and he has kindly placed the "Ferret" at my disposal. Commander Leckie has, however, just returned to this port from thence, and he has reported to me that all is quiet.

4. I have inquired into Prince Mannah's movements, and I am informed that he is now engaged in legitimate commerce, and that one of his canoes was seen by "Ferret" with produce on board.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. DOUGAN.

Inclosure 8 in No. 76.

Consul Hanson to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

Victoria, Sherbro Island, June 23, 1855.

I DO myself the honour, in obedience to instructions I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to inform you that slaves continue to be transported, almost daily, from the Kittam, Gallinas, and Boom countries, through these waters, to places to the north of the Colony of Sierra Leone.

So bold and insolent have those who are prosecuting this business become, that they do not hesitate to stop near some of the factories here to purchase rice occasionally, and to procure water. During the current month, twelve canoes have, to my certain knowledge, passed.

On or about the 13th of May last, a vessel reported to be Spanish (and in all probability one of the two which had been prowling about Manor Rock, respecting which I have had the honour of communicating with Commanders Heseltine and Leckie), put into the Turtle Islands and left there on the 31st of that month. May it not be, Sir, that some of the many canoes which passed about that time with slaves, discharged their lading on board of her, and thus provided her with a cargo? The covert of the anchorage where she lay is so complete, that a ship passing at sea cannot see anything of a vessel laying there.

I have also learned that Prince Mannah, of the Gallinas, has now a large number of slaves in chain ready for transport at Gendemah, his place of residence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

No. 77.

Consul-General Hill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received November 12.*)

My Lord,

Government House, Sierra Leone, October 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward Mr. Hanson's Quarterly Report, and I regret to remark the desponding tone in which the Consular Agent speaks of the state of the Sherbro country generally.

I am exercising every means at my disposal to capture any canoes that may be passing from the Sherbro waters to the northward of this colony, and no exertion or energy shall be wanting on my part to put down this disgraceful Traffic, which has been and is carried on, as Mr. Hanson truly remarks, not purely for domestic purposes, but, in my opinion, for sale to slave-dealers, and subsequent transportation.

I have applied to the Governor of Gambia for the "Dover" steamer, and hope to have that vessel available for the use of this Government by the end of next month, when I purpose to proceed to the Sherbro, that I may personally make myself acquainted with the actual social condition of the natives there, and, if possible, persuade them to desist from the hostile intentions towards each other, as pointed out in the inclosed report.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

STEPHEN J. HILL.

Inclosure in No. 77.

Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Extract.)

Victoria, Sherbro Island, October 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that during the quarter just ended there has been, so far as I have had the means of knowing, no trans oceanic Slave Trade carried on in this country.

The indigenous Slave Trade, however, carried on, not for purely domestic purposes, but as really and as certainly for purposes of traffic and gain as the former, and in its character and in its results equally, as that, calculated to chattelise man and to infringe every right of humanity—is as active as ever. I cannot refrain from repeating the expression of the conviction I have already taken the liberty to state to your Lordship, that, if it be suffered for but a short time longer to run riot in the districts in which it is now so rife, it will at no very distant day entirely appropriate them to itself, and close them to the produce trade.

A remarkable evidence of the increase of that Traffic since the commencement of the hubbub respecting the "*Mallighea*" affair, is, that whereas formerly the canoes engaged in it usually commenced to come into these southern waters about the end of March and the beginning of April, after the previous year's cargoes had been conveyed away, now, very considerable numbers are reported to be coming in before the old companies have all left.

No. 78.

Consul-General Hill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received January 21, 1856.*)

My Lord,

Government House, Sierra Leone, December 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*" has been wrecked in this harbour since her release.

The master ran this vessel into one of the bays close to Free Town, intending to clean her bottom; she struck on a rock, and being a very sharp-built ship, fell over on her broadside and bilged.

There is no hope of saving her.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

STEPHEN J. HILL.

No. 79.

Consul-General Hill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received January 21, 1856.*)

My Lord,

Government House, Sierra Leone, December 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Macartney, manager of the Western District of this Colony, captured, on the morning of the 9th instant, two canoes with 86 slaves on board, within British waters, at about two miles from the Banana Islands.

2. The following is a list of the persons so captured :—

Men	..	..	..	27
Women	..	..	..	13
Boys	..	..	..	25
Girls	..	..	..	21
Total				—
	..	..	..	86 persons.

All of whom were landed and handed over to the Liberated African Department at Free Town, pending adjudication.

3. These slaves were being transported in canoes from the Sherbro river, belonging to Mandingos of Fouricariah and Moribiah in the Mellicourie river, north of this Colony, having been purchased as spoils of war, and were, I have no doubt, intended for shipment from one of the northern rivers.

4. I have much satisfaction in stating, that though at first disposed to offer resistance, the men in charge of the slaves immediately surrendered, when a demonstration of force was made by the boat in command of Mr. Macartney, and no person on either side was injured on the occasion.

5. I beg leave to add that Her Majesty's steamer "Teazer" arrived here this day, from a cruize off Cape Mount, and I regret to find that, from the reports of the commander, it appears that an American barque named the "*Alexander Mitchell*" has lately left a place called Tahoo, with a cargo of 500 slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

No. 80.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Hill.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 25, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th ultimo, in which you report the capture, within British waters, by Mr. Macartney, the manager of the Western District of Sierra Leone, of two canoes with 86 slaves on board; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction the proceedings of Mr. Macartney in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 81.

Consul-General Hill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received February 8.*)

(Extract.)

Government House, Sierra Leone, January 17, 1856.

I HAVE great satisfaction in informing your Lordship that 119 natives have been rescued from slavery, by the capture of three canoes in the Sierra Leone river, twenty miles from Freetown, about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 14th instant.

I had received information from Mr. Macartney, the manager of the Western District of this Government, that he had boarded three canoes to the

south-east of the Colony, and he had reason to suppose slaves had been landed from each, for the purpose of crossing the Quiah territory to be re-shipped in the Sierra Leone river.

I immediately dispatched Mr. Mallard, the harbour-master, and a Mr. Pike, in two boats, to blockade the river and intercept the canoes in crossing, and the result has been the capture of the three canoes with their living cargoes, consisting of 28 men, 22 women, 44 boys, and 25 girls, making a total of 119 persons, packed together in the bottoms of the canoes, as is always the case, in a very confined space, and enduring the torture of a constrained and painful position.

I regret to add that the crews of the canoes being far superior in numbers, resisted the boats, and, in consequence, two men of the slave-crew are severely wounded, and one man of the Government boats slightly injured; these wounds are all given by the cutlass, as Messrs. Mallard and Pike, from a praiseworthy motive, if possible, to prevent bloodshed or loss of life, prevented their crews from using their fire-arms, and I have considered it but just to express to both gentlemen my approval of their courageous conduct and merciful forbearance in not allowing their crews, when resisted, to use their fire-arms.

Your Lordship will perceive that, in a period of less than six weeks, 205 natives have been rescued from slavery under my deputations, besides 45 brought into the Eastern District by accident; a clear proof how active this inhuman Traffic is, and has been, within sight of the shores of this Colony, and which accounts for the constant wars between the tribes, originating, as I believe, in the thirst for slave-dealing, entailing misery on the unhappy persons seized, demoralizing in its effects, and leaving a stigma on this Government that such disgraceful proceedings should be enacted in its immediate vicinity.

I would assure your Lordship that no energy shall be wanting on my part to put down this great evil.

No. 82.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Hill.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 13, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 17th ultimo, reporting the measures adopted by you which resulted in the capture of three canoes in the Sierra Leone river, having on board 119 slaves; and I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that your zeal and activity in the suppression of Slave Trade are highly appreciated by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, at the same time, to request that you will state to Messrs. Mallard and Pike that Her Majesty's Government have approved their conduct in this affair.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 83.

Consul-General Hill to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 19.)

My Lord,

Government House, Sierra Leone, February 18, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that 9 slaves escaped from a town called Kakie, opposite the Island of Matacong, to the northward of this Colony, and arrived in a canoe at Freetown on the 1st instant.

This party, consisting of 7 men, 1 woman, and 1 boy, I have located at the village of Russell, in the Western Division of this Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

BRAZIL.

No. 84.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 16, 1855.

THE ships composing Her Majesty's naval squadron on this station continue unremittingly to cruise off the coast, and visit the harbours of Brazil, and the Brazilian Government likewise maintain an establishment of cruisers in active service; but I am happy to say that there are no present indications of the Slave Trade being carried on in this country.

Shortly after the war between Great Britain and Russia broke out, a movement amongst the slave-traders was observable here, and, according to the intelligence received from Portugal, there likewise. Agents of the Slave Trade Association, of which the head-quarters are in the latter country, where the slave-dealers expelled from Brazil have established themselves, came over here to communicate with their friends in order to a renewal of the Trade, but they found Her Majesty's Government, Naval Commanders, and Diplomatic and Consular Agents, as intent as ever upon the suppression of the Slave Trade, and the Brazilian Government likewise fully determined to prevent its revival, and thus they saw themselves frustrated in their nefarious designs.

I conceive that the cooperation which was fortunately established between the Brazilian Government and Her Majesty's Legation shortly after the present Administration came into power, in September 1853, and which it had been my object to bring about, has been productive of much good.

I do not fail constantly to impress upon the Brazilian Ministers that the slave-traders are ever active and enterprising, and on the look-out to avail themselves of the first opportunity to renew the Traffic, for which the present high price of labour in Brazil offers such great pecuniary inducements; that we must, consequently, not relax for one moment our vigilance, so as not to be taken by surprise, but that, on the contrary, we must continue it for some years to come, and be ever prepared to combat the machinations, or meet the more overt attempts, of our foes.

I must do the Brazilian Ministers the justice to say, that they always express to me their concurrence with these views. One important object gained, is that the subordinate Brazilian authorities become convinced of the sincere intention of their Government to put down the Slave Trade.

If I have not for some time past been under the necessity of addressing your Lordship on the subject of the Traffic, my attention has not been the less directed to it, but I have not had anything of importance to report.

I am also on the watch to see that due supervision is exercised by the Brazilian authorities over vessels arriving from and proceeding to the Coast of Africa, but I have not hitherto observed any want of such supervision.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 85.

The Chevalier de Macedo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 13.)

My Lord,

Légation Impériale du Brésil, le 12 Avril, 1855.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre les copies ci-jointes des lettres qui ont été adressées par Pedro Martins Jambo, Brésilien, et sobrecargue du brick Portugais "Liberal," au Consul de Sa Majesté Britannique à Lagos, et de la réponse faite par celui-ci à la première de ces lettres.

De la lecture de ces documents, votre Excellence verra que Jambo a reçu du Roi de Lagos un ordre de quitter le pays en cinq jours ; que, croyant cet ordre provoqué par le Consul, il l'a prié d'employer son influence pour le faire retirer. Le Consul lui a fait connaître, qu'en effet l'ordre du Roi avait été exigé par l'officier commandant la station navale Anglaise, en vertu d'un Traité. Jambo répond à cela, que le Traité ne peut lui être applicable, puisqu'il n'était arrivé à Lagos qu'en Octobre 1854, et qu'il n'était pas engagé dans la Traite des Nègres.

Dès sa première lettre, Jambo rappelle au Consul, qu'en arrivant à Lagos il s'est présenté à lui, et a exposé l'objet de son voyage, et le commerce auquel il se livrait.

L'ordre du Roi de Lagos n'a pas été révoqué, et Jambo a notifié au Consul son protêt contre les pertes qu'à lui, aussi bien qu'à ses commettants, allaient résulter de l'ordre dicté au Roi par les autorités Britanniques.

Dans la lettre que Jambo écrit à son correspondant ici, il proteste énergiquement contre le soupçon d'être engagé dans la Traite des Nègres, et prétend que deux négociants, G. Sandeman et G. B. Scalla, tâchent de s'assurer, par tous les moyens, le monopole du commerce de Lagos, et que le Consul Britannique agit sous leur influence.

Je n'ai aucun moyen à ma disposition pour savoir si Jambo a été ou non engagé dans la Traite des Nègres. Il y a, cependant, trois grands sujets de présomption en sa faveur :—

1. Depuis quelque temps il a fait des opérations sur l'Angleterre dans le commerce de l'huile de palme, tellement lucratives, à cause de l'élévation du prix de cette marchandise, qu'aucune contrebande de nègres ne pourrait égaler, surtout mis en compte, le risque d'être pris.

2. En Novembre 1854, c'est-à-dire, immédiatement après son arrivée à Lagos, il avait donné ordre à son correspondant ici d'assurer conditionnellement une portion d'huile de palme qu'il se proposait d'embarquer dans les paquebots suivants. Ces deux points je tiens d'une maison de commerce de Londres digne de confiance.

3. Il avait déjà avancé des sommes ou des marchandises pour obtenir de l'huile de palme et autres productions du pays, qui ne lui étaient pas encore remises, et dont il a présenté les détails au Consul.

Ces mêmes grands profits résultant du commerce légal avec Lagos doivent être une raison pour que chacun emploie les moyens possibles pour se l'assurer.

Il ne peut être ni juste ni dans les intentions du Gouvernement Britannique d'écarter la concurrence, par des moyens tels que ceux dont se plaint Jambo, pour assurer le monopole à des individus quelconques. Le Gouvernement Anglais, au contraire, veut la liberté de commerce même dans ses colonies.

Je vous prie donc, my Lord, de vouloir bien donner les ordres nécessaires pour que cette affaire soit examinée, et pour que justice se fasse à cet homme. Il semble qu'aucune autorité ne doit être armé d'un droit arbitraire d'embarrasser des opérations commerciales licites sur le simple soupçon, sans preuve, d'un crime, quelque odieux qu'il soit. Si le Consul ou l'officier Anglais ne peut pas prouver le but criminel du commerce de Jambo, il doit être responsable pour les torts qu'il lui a causés.

Je m'empresse de faire part de ceci au Gouvernement Impérial, qui, de son côté, ne manquera pas de chercher des informations sur la matière.

Je saisis, &c.

(Signé) S. DE MACEDO.

Inclosure 1 in No. 85.

Senhor Jambo to Consul Campbell.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Lagos, January 22, 1855.

AS supercargo of the Portuguese brig "Liberal," and manager of the trade ("caixa da negociacão") of the vessel, I should be undeserving of the confidence reposed in me by the parties interested in the said trade, if I did not, by all the means in my power, endeavour to procure the withdrawal of the illegal order which, at your request, the King of Lagos has given me to leave this country within five days, and this without attention to the fact that several merchants of this place owe me the amount of 20,062½ gallons of palm oil, 212 coast cloths, and 30 dollars in silver, according to the account which, at your request, I forwarded to you on the 21st instant.

After having unsuccessfully employed all the means in my power, the only thing remaining is to request you, as Consul of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, which is in amity with that of Brazil, to which nation I belong, that you will procure the withdrawal of the order, and also that you will lend me your powerful protection, so that I may be able to remain here until the liquidation of the above-mentioned debt. I hope you will not refuse me this favour, having granted it to others under similar circumstances, and also because you must remember that, when I arrived here at the beginning of last October, I took care to present myself to you, apprising you of the business which brought me here.

I wait for a reply, and I am, &c.,

(Signed)

PEDRO MARTINS JAMBO,

Supercargo of the Portuguese brig "Liberal."

Inclosure 2 in No. 85.

Senhor Jambo to Consul Campbell.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Lagos, January 24, 1855.

I RECEIVED yesterday your letter in reply to mine of the 22nd instant, and I see the incorrect interpretation which you give to the Treaty of the late King Akitoye with Her Britannic Majesty, to the effect of obliging the present King Decemo to expel me from this country, without attending to the just claims which I make to be able to recover the amount due to me here.

The Article of the said Treaty to which you refer is probably the Vth, which I have the honour to send you a copy of, to show you that I am aware of the right on my side:—

"Article V.—Europeans or other persons now engaged in the Slave Trade are to be expelled from the country; the houses, stores, or buildings hitherto employed as slave-factories, if not converted to lawful purposes within three months of the conclusion of this engagement."

As you see, I cannot in any way be included under the said Article, because I was not in Lagos on the 1st of January, 1852, the date of the said Treaty, but I was in Aquita, supercargo of the Sardinian polacca "Giudetta," on lawful business, as I can prove by the register of the English fort of that harbour; and I can also prove it now even here, since I arrived at this port long after the restoration of King Akitoye, on the lawful trade which I have followed for these seven years.

I have also to remind you that if Commodore Adams and Commander Miller understand that they can close this harbour to all Brazilian citizens, it is your positive duty, in your quality as British Consul, to protest against this abuse, and not to suffer my interests to be sacrificed, especially as I have done my business here with your consent.

Nor do I see any reason why you should not afford me the protection which I have asked for; indeed, I am of opinion that in no way could you refuse it to me, by virtue of the good harmony existing between the Governments of Great Britain and of Brazil.

For all these reasons, and to maintain my right, I feel myself obliged to protest against you, or against whomsoever it may be of right, for the injuries, losses, and damages, which may result to the business intrusted to me, being assured that you will not refuse to sign the protest which I shall present to you in the act of departing.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PEDRO MARTINS JAMBO,
Supercargo of the Portuguese brig "*Liberal*."

No. 86.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Chevalier de Macedo.

M. le Chevalier,

Foreign Office, April 26, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between Senhor Pedro Martins Jambo, a Brazilian subject, and Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, on the occasion of the former being expelled from that place in consequence of his connection with Slave Trade transactions, and requesting that this case may be inquired into, as being one of great injustice towards Senhor Jambo, who asserts that he was engaged in legitimate traffic.

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that it appears by the despatches on this subject which have been received from Mr. Campbell, that Senhor Jambo is notorious as having been formerly engaged in dealing in slaves on the coast of Africa; that he had lately imported into Lagos, from Brazil, commodities, such as tobacco, which are not marketable at Lagos, and are only used as objects of barter in the purchase of slaves; and that he was the partner of a Frenchman named Louis Lamoignon, who had for several years taken an active part in the Slave Trade at Gallinas and Shebar, on the coast of Africa.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Campbell insisted on the fulfilment of the Articles of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty between Her Majesty's Government and the King of Lagos providing for the expulsion of slave-dealers from that territory, and Senhor Jambo, in company with others equally notorious for their participation in the Traffic, was ordered out of the country by King Docemo.

Senhor Jambo seems to have assumed that, because it was provided by the Vth Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and the King of Lagos of the 1st of January, 1852, that Europeans then engaged in the Slave Trade were to be expelled from the country, and because he was not at that time at Lagos, the Treaty in question did not affect him; but he seems to have overlooked the fact that it is provided, in another Article of the same Treaty, that "no European, or other person whatever, shall be permitted to reside within the territory of the King and Chiefs of Lagos for the purpose of carrying on in any way the Traffic in Slaves."

And as Mr. Campbell had sufficient grounds for believing that Senhor Jambo, and some other foreigners previously connected with the Slave Trade, were about to renew that Traffic at Lagos, Her Majesty's Government considered that Mr. Campbell was justified in calling upon the King to fulfil his engagements under the Article in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

P.S.—I have also to observe that the fact of Mr. Jambo being largely concerned in the palm-oil trade does not by itself suffice to prove that he was not capable of dealing in slaves; for it is well known that Domingo Martinez, the greatest slave-dealer in the Bight of Benin, also deals largely in palm-oil, and that this trade is used by slave-dealers, not only in that quarter but in other parts of the coast of Africa, as a convenient cloak for the Slave Trade.

C.

No. 87.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 16th March, reporting the successful efforts made for putting a stop to Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil, I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter, and that Her Majesty's Government have received with sincere satisfaction your statement that there are no present indications of the Slave Trade being carried on in Brazil, and that the subordinate Brazilian authorities have become convinced of the intention of their Government to put down the Slave Trade.

No. 88.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 13, 1855.

SHORTLY after I had forwarded to your Lordship my despatch of the 16th ultimo, stating that, at that moment, there were not any indications of Slave Trade being carried on in this country, I received information according to which it appeared that an attempt was being set on foot to revive that Traffic.

The arrival, on the 9th ultimo, by the mail steam-packet from Southampton, of a letter addressed to the notorious slave-dealer Don Francisco Riverosa, a Spaniard, led to the belief that he must either have landed or be expected in this capital or neighbourhood. Having succeeded in obtaining a copy of this letter, I have the honour of transmitting it to your Lordship, together with a translation. It is dated Liverpool, February 8, signed F. de Olinga and Co., and incloses a price-current of articles adapted for the use of negroes.

It was further ascertained that a Slave Trade agent of the name of Cunha had arrived here in March, having lately left the coast of Africa, being the bearer of a letter, of which I likewise inclose a translation, from Senhor J. G. Amorim to Riverosa, dated the 3rd of February last, showing that the object of Cunha's and Riverosa's coming to this country was to arrange some new slave-trading venture to Brazil. There was likewise reason to suppose that other individuals were implicated in these transactions.

The whole of this information was given to the Brazilian Government at the same time as to myself, and the prosecution of the matter placed in their hands.

I had no reason to doubt the good intentions of the Brazilian Government, but fearing, from what I had heard, that their action might not be as prompt on this occasion as the case required, I thought it advisable, on the 30th ultimo, to address to the Minister for Foreign Affairs a note, stating my opinions of the importance of the information in question, and suggesting some measures which it might be desirable to adopt.

Viscount Abaeté replied to me, in a note of the 9th instant, stating that the Imperial Government had taken, and would continue to take, every measure, not only to frustrate any projected attempt at slave-trading, but also to punish the individuals who might be implicated in it.

The annexed are, copy of my note and translation of Viscount Abaeté's reply.

Riverosa has not yet been discovered. Some persons, believed to be his accomplices, had been interrogated, others are being watched by the police, and a Spaniard named Miro, a former Slave Trade captain, I am assured, on good authority, has been ordered out of the country. Other steps have likewise, I am told, been adopted on particular points of the coast.

Inclosure 1 in No. 88.

Senhor Amorim to Don Francisco Riverosa.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, February 3, 1855.

SOON after your departure, J. Roiz Cunha presented himself here, coming from Loanda; he says that he came to settle accounts with you, and that he abandoned the barracoon in consequence of the non-appearance of vessels to receive cargoes, although he was not in charge of the barracoon; but he did not choose to remain there also on account of the state of his health.

I shall be glad if you should have already made some arrangement on the subject upon which you reckoned when you left this, and if the best result should attend the affairs of C—— [qy. Cuba]. The men here are going on in the same way as when you took your departure; they have not been able to do anything in the I—— [qy. Islands]. By the packet which is to leave in March I shall send you the papers which you call for in yours of the 23rd of December last past. Our friend Souza writes to you under this date; he is still sick and infirm.

Awaiting your orders, I subscribe myself, &c.

(Signed)

J. G. AMORIN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 88.

Messrs. Olinga and Co. to Don Francisco Riverosa.

(Translation.)

Liverpool, February 8, 1855.

CONFIRMING the contents of our preceding respects of the 8th ultimo, and without any of your favours to have the pleasure of replying to, we hasten to transmit to you the inclosed p. c. [price current], whereby you will become acquainted with the true state of these markets for those articles which are suitable for the blacks of those countries.

Hoping that the information which it contains may be of some use to you in the arranging of your affairs, we are, &c.

(Signed)

F. DE OLINGA AND CO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 88.

Mr. Howard to Viscount de Abaeté.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 30, 1855.

HAVING received information, which I understand has likewise been brought to the knowledge of the Imperial Government, that a letter, dated the 8th ultimo, from Liverpool, was brought here by the last mail steam-packet from Southampton, to the address of the notorious slave-trader the Spaniard Francisco Riverosa, and there being consequently every reason to suspect that he either has arrived in this capital or may be expected to do so shortly, and that his coming to this country must be connected with some slave-trading speculation; I think it my duty, whilst recording my full confidence in the sincere determination of the Imperial Government to endeavour to frustrate any attempts at the revival of the Traffic, to convey to your Excellency my opinion that the above-mentioned circumstance is well worthy of the serious attention of the Imperial Government; and to urge the necessity of immediate measures being taken for the purpose of also obtaining possession of some further correspondence addressed to the same Riverosa, which is stated to have been delivered to the captain of a Spanish vessel, and of which I learn that notice has been given to the Imperial Government; and of seizing the person of Riverosa, when he may be discovered to have arrived here, as well as those of any accomplices whom it may be ascertained that he has in this capital, in order that they may be dealt with according to law.

I likewise take the liberty of suggesting that fresh instructions should be

issued to the Imperial, Provincial, and other authorities, enjoining upon them increased vigilance, with a view to prevent any new designs of the slave-traders, and to punish those who may aid or abet such designs; and moreover, that the number of the Brazilian cruisers, which has lately, I believe, been somewhat reduced by vessels being detached on other services, may be restored to its full complement.

The length of time during which the Slave Trade to Brazil has been suspended, may induce the slave-traders to suppose that the Imperial Government are off their guard, and they may therefore think the present moment, when the attention of the Imperial Ministers is believed to be much occupied with other weighty matters, a favourable one for a fresh venture. It consequently appears to me highly important that the Imperial Government should disprove that supposition, not only by the energy, but likewise by the persevering nature, of their precautionary and repressive measures.

It will be within your Excellency's recollection that I have, on several occasions, verbally stated my opinion that the slave-traders are ever active and enterprising, and on the look-out to avail themselves of the first opportunity to renew the Traffic, for which the present high price of labour in Brazil offers such great pecuniary inducements; that we must consequently not relax, for one moment, our vigilance, so as not to be taken by surprise, but that, on the contrary, we must continue it for some years to come, and be ever prepared to combat the machinations, or meet the more overt attempts of our foes, the slave-traders.

It has always been with peculiar satisfaction that I have received from your Excellency the assurance of your concurrence with these views, and if I now revert to these conversations, it is only for the purpose of remarking that it would appear, from the information above referred to, concerning Riverosa, that I have not over-estimated the perseverance of the slave-traders.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 88.

Viscount de Abaeté to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 9, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which, under date of the 30th ultimo, was addressed to him by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., acquainting the Undersigned that he had received information, which he believed had also been received by the Imperial Government, that a letter had been brought by the last steam-packet but one from Southampton, dated the 8th of February, addressed to the notorious Spanish slave-trader Francisco Riverosa, and that this fact afforded reasons for suspecting that this individual either had arrived in this capital or would shortly arrive here; and as his arrival might be connected with some new Slave Trade speculation, Mr. Howard thought it his duty, whilst recording his entire confidence in the sincere determination of the Imperial Government to use every effort towards frustrating any attempt to revive the Traffic, to manifest his opinion that the above-mentioned circumstance is worthy of the serious attention of the Imperial Government, and earnestly to press the adoption of certain measures, which Mr. Howard points out in his said note.

In reply to Mr. Howard's note, the Undersigned has the honour to tell him that the Government of His Majesty the Emperor was certainly informed that in the packet which entered this port in the preceding month, some letters had come for the well-known slave-dealer Francisco Riverosa, and that in consequence the Government of His Majesty the Emperor have taken, and will continue to take, those measures which they may judge proper and most efficacious, not only to frustrate any attempted slave-trading which may be projected, but also to punish those individuals who may be comprised therein; but the Undersigned cannot but add that the Imperial Government are suffi-

ciently conscious of their duty to proceed in this, as well as in any other similar case, with the necessary degree of energy, and to select those means which may appear to them the most suitable for the attainment of the desired result.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) VISCONDE DE ABAETE.

No. 89.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th of April, reporting the information you had received respecting the operations and movements of certain well-known slave-dealers, and inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Brazilian Government upon the subject; and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 90.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 6, 1855.

I INCLOSE to you herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape de Verde Islands,* respecting the case of a free mulatto woman, named Antonia Thereza da Graça, who is stated to have left St. Vincent in August last, in the service of the wife of an Englishman, an engineer on board a Brazilian steam-vessel, and to have been subsequently sold into slavery at Rio; and I have to desire that you will make all possible inquiries respecting the fate of this poor woman, and report to me the result of your inquiries.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 91.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 1, 1855.

IT will be in your Lordship's recollection that, in transmitting to your Lordship, in my despatch of the 8th of March of last year,† the copy of a note addressed to me on the 6th of that month by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating to me the sentence by which the Municipal Judge of Marianna had declared the three slaves of the late John Craven, a British subject, to be free; I likewise had the honour of inclosing a copy of my reply of the 7th of the same month, to his Excellency, requesting to be informed, as an appeal had been made in that case to a higher Court, when the individuals in question were actually placed in possession of liberty.

A year having elapsed without my hearing anything further from Viscount Abaeté on the subject, I addressed to him, on the 24th of March last, the note of which I have the honour to annex a copy, inquiring how the case stood. To this note I received the reply, in a note of the 27th ultimo, of which the inclosed is a translation, stating the proceedings had been in abeyance, in the office of the Secretary of the Supreme Court of Justice of this capital, ever since April of last year, in consequence of the non-payment of certain costs which devolved upon the interested parties.

From the accompanying copy of my note of the 30th ultimo, in rejoinder, your Lordship will perceive that I have referred to the assurances

* No. 266.

† Class B, presented 1855, No. 76.

formerly given to Her Majesty's Legation, relative to the transmission of instructions, in order that the cause of the freedom of the slaves in question should be properly conducted and defended; that I have commented upon the neglect shown by the Imperial authorities, who had assumed the administration of the property of the late John Craven; and that I have urged the Imperial Government to take prompt and effective measures for removing the obstacles which obstruct the progress of the final legal proceedings for the liberation of the individuals above alluded to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 91.

Mr. Howard to Viscount de Abaeté.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 24, 1855.

IN your note of the 6th of March of last year, your Excellency did me the honour to communicate to me the sentence pronounced by the Deputy Municipal Judge of the District of Marianna, declaring the woman Maria, and her two children, slaves of a British subject, the late John Craven, to be free, and restored to liberty; adding, however, that the said Judge had appealed, *ex officio*, to the Supreme Court of the District.

In thanking your Excellency, in my note of the following day's date, for this welcome intelligence, I requested your Excellency, with reference to that appeal, to be so good as to acquaint me when the individuals in question are actually placed in possession of their liberty.

As a year has elapsed since that period, I cannot but feel confident that the matter must already have been definitively decided, and Maria and her two children really and legally set free; but nevertheless, considering the great interest which Her Majesty's Government take in the accomplishment of this fact, I have the honour of requesting your Excellency to inform me how the case actually stands. Should it turn out that delay has occurred in the fulfilment of all the legal formalities connected with it, I feel persuaded, from the anxiety which your Excellency has shown to meet the wishes of Her Majesty's Government in this case, that you will not fail to take measures for cutting it short.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 91.

Viscount de Abaeté to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 27, 1855.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to me on the 24th of March last.

In this note Mr. Howard calls the attention of the Imperial Government to the contents of another note which he addressed to me, under date of the 7th of March of last year, and in which he thanked me for the communication of the sentence pronounced by the Municipal Judge of the City of Marianna, which declared that the black woman Maria, and her two children, who had belonged to the late British subject John Craven, were free, and restored to liberty, and from which sentence the said Judge appealed, *ex officio*, to the Supreme Court of the District; and as a year has elapsed since the date of the communication which I had the honour to impart to him, Mr. Howard begs to be informed of the state of this affair, supposing that it has been definitively decided.

I immediately addressed myself to the Minister of Justice, asking him to furnish me with the necessary elucidation on this subject, and his Excellency has just acquainted me, in a despatch dated the 21st instant, that having called upon the President of the Supreme Court of Justice of this capital for information relative to the process whereby the said slaves were declared free, that

said President had stated to him that the proceedings touching that suit have been lying in the office of the Secretary of that tribunal since April of last year, and are at a stand for want of the payment of the respective costs, and of the postage—a circumstance which obstructs the progress of civil suits, which the parties concerned alone ought to promote the solution of.

Replying in this manner to Mr. Howard's above-mentioned note of the 24th of March last, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

VISCONDE DE ABAETE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 91.

Mr. Howard to Viscount de Abaeté.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 27th instant, informing me, in reply to the inquiries contained in my note of the 24th ultimo, relative to the state of proceedings in the case of the manumission of the three slaves of the late John Craven, a British subject, that those proceedings have been at a standstill since the month of April of last year in the office of the Secretary of the Supreme Court of Justice of this capital, in consequence of the non-payment of certain costs, and of the postage—a circumstance which obstructs the progress of civil suits, which the parties interested ought alone to promote.

With regard to this case, I beg to remind your Excellency of the assurance contained in your note of the 9th of November, 1853, to Mr. Jerningham, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, that the Imperial Government was dispatching, under that day's date, reiterated instructions to the President of the Province of Minas Geraes, to take all the steps in his power, in order that the cause of the freedom of the individuals in question should be properly conducted and defended. In subsequent notes your Excellency was so good as to inform me of the state of the legal proceedings, and of the sentence pronounced on the 18th of February, 1854, by the Substitute of the Municipal Judge of Marianna, declaring those three individuals, the negress Maria and her two Creole children, to be free, and ordering them to be set at liberty, from which sentence, however, the said judge appealed, *ex officio*, to the Supreme Court of Justice in this capital.

I beg further to remind your Excellency that, in compliance with the instructions of the Earl of Clarendon, I had the honour of conveying to your Excellency, in my note of the 30th of June last year, the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government had learnt the passing of that sentence, which Her Majesty's Government had every reason to suppose would be carried into effect without any unnecessary delay.

Therefore, after the assurances, above referred to, given by your Excellency to Mr. Jerningham, and after the various communications addressed to me by your Excellency, which went to show the anxiety of the Imperial Government to promote the liberation of the before-named slaves, and thereby to comply with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, it has been with surprise and regret—feelings which I know will be shared by Her Majesty's Government—that I have now learnt, from your Excellency's note of the 27th instant, that those individuals have been unnecessarily retained in slavery for upwards of one year since the period when they were declared free by the Judge of the Tribunal of the First Instance, owing to the culpability of those Imperial authorities who assumed the administration of the property of the late John Craven, who realized the remainder of that property and appointed a curator, in not taking the proper steps, by the payment of the fees and costs, to carry the appeal through the higher tribunal, and thereby discharging the duty devolving upon them of providing for the liberty of the persons whose interests were committed to their charge.

Surely, after such neglect, which, I am convinced will not fail to be reprobated by the Imperial Government, it cannot be affirmed that the cause of the freedom of the said individuals has been properly conducted and defended by the Imperial authorities more immediately concerned, and who have allowed that cause to remain dormant for more than a twelvemonth, nor that that super-

vision which your Excellency recommended to the Imperial authorities of the Province of Minas has been exercised.

Under these circumstances, I have the honour of addressing myself to your Excellency, in order that prompt and effective measures may be taken by the Imperial Government for the removal of the impediments which at present obstruct the progress of the final legal proceedings, involving the settlement of the urgent question of the liberation of three individuals already declared free so long ago.

Trusting that I may be favoured with an early reply from your Excellency, I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 92.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith, in translation, an extract from the Emperor of Brazil's speech from the Throne on opening the session of the General Legislative Assembly yesterday, containing the paragraph which relates to the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 92.

Extract from the Emperor of Brazil's Speech on opening the Session of the General Legislative Assembly on the 3rd of May, 1855.

(Translation.)

I AM happy to announce to you that no attempt has been made to traffic in Africans. The adherence of the country, and the vigilance with which the police of our coasts continue to be upon the watch, afford me the assurance that this criminal trade will not reappear.

No. 93.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 14, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 10th instant, of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of March,* inclosing to me copies of your correspondence with Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, respecting the question raised by the case of the French ship "Camelia," of the right of the Brazilian authorities in that port, to exact securities from foreign vessels taking a portion of their cargoes from thence to the coast of Africa.

This course of proceeding is grounded upon the Brazilian Law of the 4th of September, 1850, and the Decree of the 14th of October of the same year regulating its execution; these enactments, of which a translation is to be found in the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Slave Trade Treaties, presented to Parliament in 1853, were, as your Lordship is aware, issued under the pressure of the measures adopted by Her Majesty's Government to put down the Brazilian Slave Traffic, and were approved of by Her Majesty's Government. Article VII of the Law in question, provides that passports shall not be given to merchant ships for the coast of Africa, until their owners, captains, or masters, have signed a declaration that they will not receive any slave on board of their vessels, the owners giving bond in a sum of money equal to the value to the ship and cargo, which bond shall not be

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 179.

cancelled unless they prove, within eighteen months, that they have strictly fulfilled the conditions of their declaration.

The Decree of the 14th of October likewise provides for the supervision of vessels conveying colonists.

In the case of the "Camelia," it was the first paragraph of Article XXXIII of that Decree by which the existence of receptacles for liquids, besides those filled with water, are amongst the articles enumerated as constituting legal presumption of the employment of a vessel in the Slave Traffic, which was quoted by the Brazilian authorities at Bahia, in support of their demand for the deposit of security. This case was brought by the French Consular Agent at Bahia under the notice of the French Minister here, M. de St. Georges, who, on the plea that all the papers of the vessel were in order, in conformity with the strict regulations of the French Government, which is so hostile to the Slave Trade, and had been countersigned by the Brazilian Consul at Havre, demanded of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the rescission of the security deposited.

This request was complied with, after some delay, on the ground of the circumstances alleged by M. de St. Georges, and because, as stated in Viscount Abaeté's note to M. de St. Georges, there were no other motives than those already referred to, for suspecting the vessel of being engaged in the Traffic. I understand that the owners claim damages for the detention of the vessel at Bahia.

I beg to observe that the stipulations of the legal enactments above referred to, in respect to the deposit of security, are constantly applied at this port to Portuguese as well as to Brazilian vessels proceeding to the coast of Africa, and that, upon the principle that one of the modes of suppressing the Slave Trade is, to prevent the fitting out of vessels for it, I have kept a strict watch over all such vessels and have made a point of inquiring whether they comply with the regulations in respect to giving security, which regulations I consider as containing a most wholesome check upon the slave-traders.

Mr. Consul Morgan says, in his despatch of the 26th of December last to your Lordship (inclosed to me in your despatch of the 25th March), that the Slave Trade is extinct in the port of Bahia; but I may be permitted to remark, that it was not longer ago than the latter end of 1853 that strong suspicions were entertained that vessels secretly received fittings there for slave-trading purposes; and moreover, that if the Slave Trade should no longer exist in some particular port, and such a fact may be due in great part to the energy with which the laws are carried out there, as is the case at Bahia, under the Presidency of so decided an enemy to the trade as Senhor Wanderley, the spirit of slave-trading cannot be said to be extinct in this country as long as machinations are set on foot, as we have quite lately had reason to believe, for reviving it.

In my humble opinion, as long as the Brazilian Government and Her Majesty's Government continue their repressive measures, the Slave Trade will be kept down; but were they to relax the rigour of those measures, I feel but little doubt it would spring up again, though undoubtedly there is a much stronger feeling in Brazil against the Traffic than a few years ago.

No. 94.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 5, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st ultimo, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting the delay which has taken place in the proceedings relating to the manumission of the 3 slaves belonging to the late John Craven.

I have, in reply, to inform you that I approve the steps which you have taken in this matter; and I have to desire that, if further delay should take place in the proceedings upon this case, you will continue to urge the Brazilian Government to oblige the Imperial authorities who assumed the administration

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of John Craven's estate to pay the legal costs in this suit, and to remove any further impediments which may hinder the immediate liberation of the slaves in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 95.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 28, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship a translation of that part of the report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Abaeté, to the Legislature, dated the 15th instant, which relates to the Slave Trade and to the emancipation of the free Africans.

Under the first of these heads, Viscount Abaeté expresses his satisfaction in announcing that the apprehensions which had been entertained of the revival of the Slave Trade in Brazil may be said to be totally unfounded.

His Excellency, however, after stating the measures taken by the Brazilian Government to prevent that revival, says that the Imperial Government are persuaded that, by means of such well-concerted measures, they have succeeded in frustrating some attempts of the slave-traders.

Viscount Abaeté, after declaring, at the beginning of his statement, that no landing of Africans had taken place, subsequently notices as unfounded the rumours which had been spread of disembarkations in the Provinces of Rio Grande do Sul and St. Catherine's.

His Excellency then remarks that, from the recognition by Her Majesty's Government of the efforts made by the Brazilian Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and from the circumstance of no doubts being entertained in Great Britain of the efficacious repression of that Trade in Brazil, the Imperial Government might have inferred that they would have met with no difficulty in persuading Her Majesty's Government to repeal the Act of Parliament of 1845, authorizing Her Majesty's cruisers to visit and search Brazilian vessels; that Act, however, though not latterly put into execution, had not yet been revoked as demanded by the Imperial Government, who could not recognize the rights assumed under it by Her Majesty's Government.

Viscount Abaeté proceeds to claims for Brazil the whole merit of the suppression of the Slave Trade, saying that the reluctance on the part of Her Majesty's Government to repeal the Act in question is the more remarkable as it is undeniable that the extinction of the Trade in the Empire is solely and exclusively the effect of the legislative measures decreed by the Chambers, and the means employed by the Government.

Under the head of Emancipation of free Africans, Viscount Abaeté gives an account of the communications exchanged between Her Majesty's Legation and himself on that subject, and states that he considers the discussion to be terminated.

Whilst I am always willing to acknowledge the efforts which are made by the present Brazilian Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I regret to say that I observe much remissness on the part of the Imperial authorities in carrying out the partial measures of their own Government for the actual setting at liberty of the so-called free Africans who have served private individuals during fourteen years; for, as your Lordship is aware, the Brazilian Government withheld emancipation from those who are employed in the public establishments. The consequences are, frequent applications from free Africans to Her Majesty's Legation, and the necessity of the latter interfering in their behalf. The language that I hold is, that such interference is by no means agreeable to Her Majesty's Legation, and that I am surprised that the Brazilian Government do not avoid the humiliation which it entails upon them by taking the matter vigorously into their own hands, and seeing that justice is really done to those unfortunate individuals in whose welfare they profess to interest themselves.

Inclosure in No. 95.

Extract from the Report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Legislature, dated May 15, 1855.

(Translation.)

I HAVE much satisfaction in having to announce to you that the apprehensions which were entertained of the revival of the Slave Trade in the Empire may be said to have been totally unfounded.

The vigilance of the Imperial Government, and of the authorities of the country, who, within and out of it, have been called upon to assist the Government in the prevention of that crime, has been crowned with the most complete success.

The Imperial Government have not, fortunately, to lament the fact of any disembarkation whatever of Africans on the territory of Brazil.

This is, doubtless, owing to the certainty on the part of those who speculate in this abominable Traffic, that their attempts, however well they may be concerted, will always be frustrated by the vigilance of the cruisers, and by the activity of the Brazilian authorities.

The law which you decreed, and which was promulgated on the 4th of September, 1850, and the regulations issued by the Government for its effective execution, have, considering the state of this question in the country, accomplished the object which you had in view, much sooner than was to have been expected.

This result bears favourable witness of the spirit which animates all classes of society, and, in an international point of view, is highly honourable to the efforts made by the whole country, and its representatives, to extirpate, within so short a space of time, an evil which was enervating all its social forces, and was postponing, almost indefinitely, the material improvement of the country.

Hence the notable fact of the abundance of capital in the Empire, and the impulse which has thereby been given to every branch of industry, and to useful undertakings which so much contribute towards its future development and real prosperity.

I will acquaint you with all that has occurred on this subject, in order that you may be convinced that the repression of the Slave Trade has been efficacious since the Law of the 4th of September, 1850.

As soon as the Imperial Government received information of any vessel being cleared out from foreign ports, and destined to receive Africans upon the coast of Africa, they immediately issued the necessary instructions to prevent their being imported into the Empire.

The Imperial Government are persuaded that, by means of the best concerted measures, they have succeeded in frustrating some attempts of the slave-traders.

The suspected vessels have either been sold or have had other destinations in consequence of the discouragement felt of not being able to carry out those criminal undertakings.

Thus the Government finally saw the brig "*Don Pedro II.*," which was built in the Gulf of Spezia, according to all probability for the Slave Trade, sold in Bremen; and the brig "*Etelvina*," in the United States, as not seaworthy.

The task is not a difficult one when the laws are respected, and the penalties certain.

Various reports, notwithstanding, were in circulation of the importation of Africans in divers points of the Empire; but the result of the most minute investigations on the part of the respective local authorities has been, that the information lodged was destitute of foundation.

The most remarkable rumour, respecting which a discussion took place with Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at this Court, is that which appears in the notes published in Annex D.

This discussion related to a supposed disembarkation in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul.

This rumour was communicated by the respective Consul of Her Britannic Majesty to the President of that Province, stating that, from information con-

veyed to him, it appeared that Africans had arrived there on board a vessel from the coast of Africa, and that having been transferred to a yacht, they were afterwards landed, distributed, and sent into the interior.

Previous to the reception, by the President, of this communication, he had been informed, through the Office of the Minister of Justice, of the rumour in circulation, and he had already taken the necessary steps for preventing that disembarkation if it had been attempted.

No such disembarkation however had taken place, as was proved by the investigations made by the President of the Province.

It was afterwards said that that disembarkation had been effected in the Province of Santa Catharina, but from the investigations which likewise were set on foot, it was, in the same manner, ascertained that no importation had taken place in that province.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty recognizes the efforts which have been made by the Imperial Government, and now-a-days in the Foreign Office, in the Parliament, in the press, and in the public opinion in Great Britain, no doubts are entertained of the efficacious repression of the Slave Trade in the Empire.

Hence, the Imperial Government should infer that they would meet with a willingness on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to rescind the Bill of 1845, in all its parts, which authorizes Her said Majesty's ships to visit and search Brazilian vessels, against which the Imperial Government have constantly protested.

In fact, that Bill is inoperative; for since the correspondence which I had the honour to bring to your knowledge, respecting the search by the brigantine of war "Bonetta" of the national yacht "Lagunense," no other fact has occurred which should force the Imperial Government to address fresh remonstrances to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

That Bill, however, has not been revoked, as has been demanded by the Imperial Government, who cannot recognize any right in the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to enforce the observance of the Brazilian law, which imposes the most rigorous penalties upon those who carry on the Slave Trade, in violation of the Conventions between Brazil and Great Britain by which it was abolished.

This reluctance on the part of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty is the more surprising, it being undeniable that the extinction of the Slave Trade in the Empire is solely and exclusively the effect of the legislative measures which you have decreed, and of the means employed by the Government.

Amongst those measures, it is proper here to make mention of the Law No. 731 of the 5th of July last year, which amplified the competency of the Auditors of Marine, whose province it is to pronounce judgment in criminal cases connected with the Slave Trade, in conformity with the Law of the 4th of September, 1850.

EMANCIPATION OF FREED AFRICANS.—Since the statement presented to you in my last Report, the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty has continued to insist upon modifications being made in the provisions of the Decree No. 1,303 of the 28th of December, 1853, in order to ensure the complete emancipation of those Africans who are in the employ of private individuals, and the condition of those in the service of the public establishments.

The Imperial Government have maintained that the provisions contained in said Decree have as great a tendency as possible, under present circumstances, towards the emancipation of those Africans who have been declared free, adding, that those who, in the employ of the public establishments, are not comprised in the said Decree, in regard to exemption from service, to which they are still subject, even after the expiration of the fourteen years, and until their reexportation from the Empire shall take place, they, however, earning wages after that period.

The Imperial Government consider this discussion to have terminated, and certainly they ought to take this view of the case, as no one can be more

interested than the Imperial Government in protecting this class of individuals, and in securing to them the enjoyment and exercise of their rights.

I submit, for your consideration, the correspondence which passed on this subject, as shown in Annex D.

List of Correspondence annexed to the above.

Question of landing of Africans :

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard, August 12, 1854. See Inclosure in Mr. Howard's despatch of 14th August, 1854, to the Earl of Clarendon.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, August 17, 1854, acknowledging receipt of the above.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard, September 9, 1854. See Mr. Howard's September 11, 1854, to the Earl of Clarendon.

Ditto to ditto, September 14, 1854. See Inclosure in Mr. Howard's, 21st September, 1854, to the Earl of Clarendon.

Question of repeal of Brazilian Slave Trade Act of 1845 :

M. de Macedo to Earl of Clarendon, June 27, 1854.

Earl of Clarendon to M. de Macedo, July 6, 1854.

M. de Macedo to Earl of Clarendon, July 7, 1854.

Imperial Decree No. 731, June 5, 1854, for more effectual suppression of Slave Trade. See Inclosure in Mr. Howard's, June 11, 1854, to the Earl of Clarendon.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, September 8, 1854.

See Mr. Howard's of same date, to Earl of Clarendon.

Question of emancipation of free Africans :

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, May 15, 1854. See Inclosure in Mr. Howard's of same date, to Earl of Clarendon.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard, July 15, 1854.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, July 17, 1854.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard, July 18, 1854.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, July 25, 1854.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard, July 28, 1854.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, August 10, 1854.

See Inclosures in Mr. Howard's of the latter date, to the Earl of Clarendon.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard, August 12, 1854.

See Inclosure in Mr. Howard's of August 18, 1854, to the Earl of Clarendon.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, November 8, 1854.

See Mr. Howard's of November 9, 1854.

No. 96.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing to your Lordship copies and translations respectively of a correspondence exchanged between the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Abaeté, and my self, on the subject of a free African named Marcellino, the result of which has been that the latter has been placed in possession of his liberty, according to the request which I had preferred.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 96.

Mr. Howard to Viscount de Abaeté.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 9, 1855.

APPLICATION having been made for my assistance in obtaining the emancipation of 3 free Africans, Pompeio, Rezende, and Marcellino, detained in the House of Correction, and belonging to the class of those who have served private individuals, and who are entitled to their full liberty according to the stipulations of the Imperial Decree of the 20th of December, 1853, I took means of communicating their cases to his Excellency the Minister of Justice, and I have now been assured that certificates of emancipation have been issued for the two former, but not for the third, Marcellino, who, it is stated, is employed in the Public Works.

According, however, to the information which I have received, Marcellino served the late Councillor Taão Evangelista Saião Lobato, who resided in this capital in the Rua do Regente, and subsequently his daughter, Dona Joanna Bernada Saião Lobato, living in the Rua do Senado, No. 27, from whose service he was transferred to that of the House of Correction, where he is now employed.

This fact tends to show that Marcellino belongs to the above-mentioned class of free Africans, having a right to their emancipation, and I have, consequently, the honour of requesting your Excellency to cause inquiries to be made into his case, with a view to his being put into possession of his liberty.

I feel the more persuaded that your Excellency will interest yourself in favour of this African, as well as in behalf of several others detained, as I am informed, under similar circumstances, in the House of Correction, and whose cases I beg to recommend to you, as I have frequently had the satisfaction of receiving from you the assurance that the Imperial Government are desirous of seeing the Imperial Decree, to which I have alluded, fully carried out; and as I am convinced that the Imperial Government cannot but agree with me, that to do justice to those Africans who are legally entitled to their liberty, is a duty equally incumbent upon them, and as sacred as the prevention of the importation of fresh Africans.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 96.

Viscount de Abaeté to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 29, 1855.

IN answer to the note which, on the 9th of April last, Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to me, acquainting me that, in conformity with the Decree of the 20th of November, 1853, he had requested the Minister of Justice to cause letters of emancipation to be granted to 3 freed Africans, and that only 2 of them had received them, none having been given to the other, named Marcellino, who was similarly circumstanced, and requesting me, at the same time, to inquire what reasons exist which militate against the said Marcellino, I have the honour to inform Mr. Howard that the Minister of Justice, to whom I addressed myself on this subject, replied to me on the 15th instant, that he has ascertained that that African had already been furnished with his letter of emancipation, Mr. Howard's request being thus satisfied.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCONDE DE ABAETE.

No. 97.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 6, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 13th of April last, I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship copies of a further note of the 2nd instant, which I have received from Viscount Abaeté, the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, as well as of a despatch from the Minister of Justice to his Excellency, and of a report of the Chief of Police of this capital annexed to it, stating the result of the inquiries and measures set on foot by the Imperial authorities, for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of the report that the notorious Spanish slave-trader, Don Francisco Riverosa, either had returned to this country, or was about to do so, for the purpose of some new slave-trading speculation.

From these papers your Lordship will perceive that the researches of the Brazilian authorities have not led to the discovery of Riverosa. Viscount Abaeté considers that there is no evidence of his having sought to return to Brazil.

I will not fail to thank his Excellency for the information he has communicated to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 97.
Viscount de Abaeté to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 2, 1855.

IN addition to the note which I had the honour to address, on the 29th of April last, to Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., I reply to his note of the 30th of the said month, respecting the apprehensions entertained of the arrival in this city of the Spaniard, Francisco Riverosa, in consequence of letters which are said to have come, addressed to him, by the packet of the month of February, and now transmit to him herewith copies of the despatch which the Minister of Justice addressed to me on the 12th of May last, and of the report of the Chief of Police, to which he refers, dated the 23rd of April.

From this official report Mr. Howard will see what steps were taken, as I stated to him in my above-mentioned note, as soon as it was known that that packet had brought letters for the said Riverosa.

In bringing, therefore, the report of the Chief of the Police to the knowledge of Mr. Howard, I have the honour to state to him that, notwithstanding the measures taken for ascertaining whether that individual, who had been sent out of the Empire by order of the Imperial Government, had actually returned to it, nothing has resulted therefrom that can induce the supposition that he has endeavoured to do so. The authorities continue, as they have been desired, to prosecute those measures, in order to fulfil the end which the Government had in view when they drove away that slave-trader from the theatre where he might carry out his machinations towards continuing his Slave Trade undertakings.

I reiterate, &c.

(Signed) VISCONDE DE ABAETE.

 Inclosure 2 in No. 97.
The Minister of Justice to Viscount de Abaeté.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 12, 1855.

IN reply to the despatch of the 14th of last month, in which your Excellency transmitted to me your note of the 30th of March from the British Legation, communicating the suspicions entertained of the actual, or shortly-

expected, arrival in this capital of the Spaniard, Francisco Riverosa, probably with the intention of launching afresh into speculations of slave-trading in Africans, I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency a copy of the official report addressed to me on the subject by the Chief of the Police of the city, under date of the 23rd of April, which relates the steps taken by the police, as soon as it became known that letters addressed to the said Riverosa had been brought by the English packet from Southampton, and I assure your Excellency that fresh investigations and measures are pending, the result of which I will communicate to your Excellency.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE THOMAS NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 97.

The Chief of Police to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)
(Extract.)

*Police Office of the Capital,
April 23, 1855.*

IN satisfying the despatch of the 19th instant, only received on the 22nd, in which your Excellency desires me to inform you in what manner the orders have been executed which were issued from your Department of State, respecting the Spaniard, Francisco Riverosa, and what has been the result of the investigations which were to have been instituted respecting the same, I have to acquaint your Excellency as follows:—

1. That, even before receiving your Excellency's communication, I, in consequence of information received on the 8th instant from the police agent appointed to attend to everything which regards the African Slave Trade, as is shown in the inclosed copy of his letter, issued orders that José Baptista de Souza, bookkeeper of Carmo and Pinto, in the Rua dos Pescadores, No. 8; a Spanish captain, named Miguel Miro, who was lodging in the Hotel Damiani; José Alvez Ferreira de Almeida, residing at No. 59 in the Rua Direita; and Antonio Vincente Pacheco, clerk to the goldsmith Xavier Berard, in the Rua do Ouvidor, No. 75; might be brought before me, and also that the papers of their former might be searched for those which were said to have relation to Riverosa, in order to discover, from the interrogatories of those persons, and from the correspondence, whether there might be a certainty, or probability, of the said Riverosa being in this capital, as was apprehended from the information lodged by the said agent, whilst I also addressed myself to the Administrator of the General Post-office in this city, with a view to ascertain whether any letters had been there received for that individual, in the mails of the English packets of February and March last;

2. That, from the report of the Provisional Administrator of that Department, it appears that in fact one letter for Riverosa was brought by the packet which left Southampton on the 9th of February;

3. That, from the statement made to me by the clerk, Antonio Vincente Pacheco, the communication of the said Administrator is confirmed;

4. That, from the interrogatories of José Alves Ferreira de Almeida, and of the Spaniard, Miguel Miró Garcia, nothing can be discovered touching the existence of Riverosa in this capital or province, but only that these two individuals have, more or less, been directly engaged in the African Slave Trade, the former as first factor of the Slave Trade on the Coast of Africa, and the latter having commanded vessels employed in that Trade; no document whatever having been met with amongst the papers of the latter, revealing his former relations with Riverosa, or from which it could be inferred that he was again preparing to take a part in his criminal speculations;

5. That, from the interrogatories of José Baptista de Souza, it appears that the latter carried on a correspondence with Riverosa, either directly, or through the medium of a brother named Antonio Baptista de Souza, who is in Portugal, and is married to a former mistress of Riverosa; but from a letter of that Antonio Baptista, it is only shown that Riverosa had taken his departure for Havana on the 6th of February of this year; and from another letter written by Riverosa to the said Souza, it appears that he undertook that voyage in order to treat of his old affairs, finding himself in straitened circumstances. I suppose that those old

affairs are the Slave Trade, in which Riverosa is well practised, seeing the place he was going to ;

6. That, not being convinced, in consideration of the two letters which your Excellency sent to me, of Riverosa's absence, it appearing to me that he might be concealed in some one of the neighbouring plantations, I sent an agent with the necessary instructions, in order to see if he could discover that individual ; that agent, however, did not return, nor has he addressed to me any communication of the result of his mission ;

7. That, it appearing to me improper to continue the imprisonment of the interrogated persons, no proofs having been met with of their being actually accomplices of Riverosa, or of any other slave-traders, I thought that I ought to release them from prison, which, after verbal communication with your Excellency, I did on the 11th and 14th instant.

It is finally necessary to tell your Excellency that, having informed you of all these proceedings on my part, I was awaiting the report of the agent in order to furnish a circumstantial report, which is in part hereby accomplished, it behoving me to add that I continue to make all possible investigations, in order to find out whether Riverosa is really, or is not, in this City and Province of Rio de Janeiro.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JERONIMO MARTINIANO FIGUEIRA DE MELLO.

No. 98.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 31, 1855.

I HAVE received Mr. Howard's despatch of the 30th May, inclosing copies of a correspondence with the Brazilian Government respecting the case of an emancipado named Marcellino, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps taken by Mr. Howard in behalf of Marcellino ; and I have to instruct you to thank the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs for the attention which the Minister of Justice has given to Mr. Howard's application by granting a letter of emancipation to Marcellino.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 99.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 7, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship translated extracts from the report of the Brazilian Minister of Justice, presented to the General Legislative Assembly on the 15th of May, 1855, in which reference is made to the African Slave Trade, and the satisfactory intelligence conveyed to the public that no disembarkation has taken place upon any point of the coast of Brazil since the last report of Senhor Nabuco in 1854.

In perusing the inclosed extract your Lordship will perceive that vigilance is said to be exercised by the Brazilian Government, and that cruizers are maintained off different parts of the coast of this Empire, while the zeal of the Government agents in the provinces is being stimulated and kept alive, so that subaltern authorities may not fall away from their activity and watchfulness.

Public opinion is declared to be decidedly against Slave Trade ; the employment of the funds of capitalists is announced as taking a new direction, and private interest advancing towards colonization, assisted in the promotion of this object by the supreme powers and provincial assemblies.

As Mr. Howard, in his despatch of the 28th of May of this year, inclosing an extract from the report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, addressed your Lordship fully on the nature of the means and efforts of the Imperial Government for the prevention of Slave Trade, and the success which has been

pointed out by the Viscount Abaeté as attending them, I will only add that I have not been able to learn that the Imperial Government have abated in any measure their avowed activity and vigilance, or that any fresh landing, or attempt at landing, slaves has occurred since the period of Mr. Howard's departure for England.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 99.

Extract from the Report of the Brazilian Minister of Justice to the Legislature, dated the 15th of May, 1855.

(Translation.)

THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.—SINCE my last report no disembarkation of Africans has taken place upon any point of the coast of Brazil. The Government, however, continue to be vigilant in maintaining cruisers off divers parts, in stirring up the zeal of their agents in the provinces, in order that the subaltern authorities may not relax from the activity which they have hitherto displayed.

Public opinion is decidedly against the Slave Trade; the employment of the funds of capitalists shows a different tendency; private interest advances towards colonization, being assisted in the promotion of this object by the supreme powers and provincial assemblies. It is not, however, permissible to confide on the complete extinction of that barbarous trade so repugnant to civilization; on the contrary, it behoves us to defeat the adventurous spirit of determined slave-traders.

Since the date of the Decree No. 1,303 of the 28th of December, 1853, letters of emancipation have been granted to 211 freed Africans whose services had been engaged by private persons. The Government have assigned to some of them the Provinces of Parana and the Amazonas for residence.

No. 100.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 13, 1855.

I BEG to forward to your Lordship copy of a note I have addressed to M. Paranhos dated 27th of June, respecting the 3 slaves of the late John Craven, who have been pronounced entitled to their freedom by the Judge of the Tribunal of the First Instance, but who have since been detained unjustly and unnecessarily in slavery for upwards of a year, because the Imperial authorities who had assumed the administration of Mr. Craven's property have not taken proper steps to pay the fees and costs in carrying the appeal through a higher tribunal; and I have, therefore, called the attention of the Imperial Government to the necessity of addressing these Brazilian authorities to discharge immediately the fees and costs alluded to, which, I believe, do not amount to a very high figure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 100.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, June 27, 1855.

IN a note addressed by Her Majesty's Minister, Mr. Howard, on the 30th of last April, to Viscount Abaeté, in which he refers to his Excellency's note to him under date of the 27th of the same month, relating to the state of the proceedings in the case of the manumission of the 3 slaves of the late John Craven, a British subject, I find that Mr. Howard expresses surprise and regret that, after the steps taken by the Imperial Government in giving instructions to

the President of the Province of Minas Geraes that the cause of the freedom of the individuals in question should be properly conducted and defended, these 3 persons had been unnecessarily detained in slavery for upwards of a year from the period when they were declared free by the Judge of the Tribunal of the First Instance, owing to the culpability of those Imperial authorities who assumed the administration of the property of the late John Craven, realized the remainder of that property, and appointed a Curator, in not taking the proper steps, by the payment of the fees and costs, to carry the appeal through a higher tribunal, and thereby discharge the duty incumbent upon them in providing for the liberty of those persons committed to their charge.

In consequence of this state of the matter, I consider myself in duty bound, especially as Her Majesty's Minister, Mr. Howard, has evinced such interest in the fate of the above-mentioned individuals, to press most earnestly upon the consideration of the Imperial Government the necessity of ordering these fees and costs to be immediately discharged by the authorities who have assumed the administration of the late Mr. Craven's property, and that these unfortunate slaves, who are justly entitled to their freedom, shall no longer be detained in bondage in consequence of the administration not performing their obligations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 101.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 14, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th ultimo, inclosing correspondence between your Lordship and Her Majesty's Consul at St. Vincent's, respecting the free mulatto woman, Antonia Th. da Graça, who was said to have accompanied the wife of the engineer of the Brazilian steamer "Tocantines," from St. Vincent's to Rio, and to have afterwards been sold into slavery, I beg to state that I will make the most minute inquiries respecting her, and if the story be true, I will insist upon her being set at liberty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 102.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th July last, inclosing an extract of the report of the Minister of Justice on Slave Trade, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction the continued activity shown by the Government of Brazil for the suppression of the Traffic in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 103.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th of July last, respecting the delay which had taken place in the manumission of the 3 slaves of the late John Craven, I have to inform you that I approve the note which you addressed on that subject to Senhor Paranhos.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 104.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 9, 1855.

I BEG to forward to your Lordship translation of a note from his Excellency Senhor Paranhos, Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, informing me that the difficulties which stood in the way of manumitting the 3 slaves of the late John Craven, owing to certain fees not having been paid into Court, have been removed by order of the Imperial Government, and that they are only awaiting the confirmation of the Supreme Court of Justice (the “*Relação*”) to grant certificates.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 104.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 20, 1855.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. W. S. Jerningham, &c., addressed to me under date of the 27th ultimo. Mr. Jerningham therein refers to the note which was addressed on the 30th of April to my predecessor, reproducing the observations contained in the same, which tended to show that the delay in the proceedings towards the freeing of the 3 slaves of the English subject John Craven, who died a long time since in the Province of Minas Geraes, was attributable to the Brazilian authorities, and urges upon the Imperial Government the taking into their consideration the fate of those individuals, in order that the difficulties which delayed the decision of their case may be removed.

In reply to Mr. Jerningham's said note, I have the honour to state to him, that the authorities of the Province of Minas Geraes, as soon as they were applied to by the parties interested, proceeded according to the laws which regulate cases of this nature, and whereby they could not act *ex officio* in the manner suggested by Her Britannic Majesty's Legation.

The Municipal Judge of the city of Marianna having pronounced the sentence which declared the freedom of the individuals in question, the process was transmitted *ex officio* to the Tribunal of the “*Relação*” (Supreme Court of Judicature) in this capital. Its not having been promptly attended to here, as was communicated to Mr. Howard in a note from this Office of State, dated the 26th of April, was occasioned by the non-payment of the postage, stamps, and emoluments which the parties concerned, and not the authorities, were bound to discharge.

That difficulty has, however, ceased; the Imperial Government having, in consideration of the singularity of the case, and of the interest which the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty has taken, employed the means within their reach, not only towards the removal of the said difficulty, but likewise that proceedings may be prosecuted with the greatest possible brevity.

The sentence which the before-mentioned Tribunal of the Second Instance may pronounce shall, in due time, be communicated to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, in answer to the requests of Mr. Jerningham and of Mr. Howard.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

No. 105.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 13, 1855.

IN pursuance of your Lordship's orders, I gave directions to trace out the free black woman Antonia Thereza de Jesus, who, according to the report of Her Majesty's Consul at St. Vincent's, was said to have accompanied the wife of the engineer of the "Toccantins" as nurse from that island to Rio de Janeiro, and to have been afterwards sold into slavery.

I have learnt that the English engineer who came out in the "Toccantins" is no longer in that vessel, but that he is shortly expected again in Brazil with the new steamer "Paraná," which is on her voyage from England here.

In the meantime, I beg to forward to your Lordship translation of a letter from the Secretary of Police to the Chief of that Department, stating that no mention is made in the register of the police office of the arrival of Antonia Thereza de Jesus and her daughter in the "Toccantins" steamer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 105.

The Provisional Secretary of the Police afloat to the Chief of Police.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

IN compliance with your Excellency's commands to inform you without delay when the steamer "Toccantins" arrived here from England, the name of the engineer on board her, and whether a woman named Antonia Thereza de Jesus, together with a little girl, came in the said steamer; I have to inform your Excellency that, from the register of the arrivals, it appears that the said steamer arrived from England in this port on the 29th day of August last, but no mention is therein made of Antonia Thereza de Jesus and her child in the list of passengers who came in that vessel.

I have, however, been informed by the Secretary of the Company to which the national steamers belong, that the engineer, at that time, of the "Toccantins" was an Englishman, whose name he could not tell me, but that he is not here now, having returned to England.

Probably the manager of that Company will be able to furnish your Excellency with more circumstantial information, and more complete than that which exists in this Department.

Police Office, July 17, 1855.

(Signed) JOAO BAPTISTA PIQUET.

No. 106.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 5, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th of August, inclosing a copy of a note addressed to you on the 20th of July by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which his Excellency informs you that the difficulties which stood in the way of the manumission of the 3 slaves of the late John Craven have been removed by order of the Imperial Government; and I have, in reply, to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction this decision of the Brazilian Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 107.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 6, 1855.

IN a despatch which I have received from Mr. Vereker,* Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, he points out the facility with which sales of free persons of colour are effected in Brazil, and the inefficiency of the laws to prevent such illegal proceedings. Mr. Vereker then suggests, as a means for checking such abuses, that the Brazilian Government should pass a law providing for the registration of all the slaves throughout the Empire, imposing severe punishments on all persons unduly registering as slaves those who are not legally recognized as such, and rendering the sellers and purchasers of persons not previously registered as slaves amenable to the pains and penalties imposed on persons acting in contravention of the existing laws against the Slave Trade.

The adoption of a measure of the nature suggested by Mr. Vereker appears to Her Majesty's Government to be very desirable; and I have accordingly to instruct you, when you shall have made yourself acquainted with the existing state of the Brazilian law upon the subject, to place this proposal before the Government of Brazil as one the adoption of which would be in furtherance of the humane policy that, with so much honour to itself, that Government is now pursuing.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 108.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 17, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copies of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Vines, Her Majesty's Consul at Pará, and of the answer which I have returned thereto,† respecting his proceedings in undertaking to assume the guardianship and temporary possession of 3 young slaves who had belonged to Mr. Alexander Dickson, a British subject resident at Pará.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 109.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 17th instant, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a further despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consul at Pará,‡ directing him to give up the possession of the 2 boys Jacinto and Ildefonso, and of the girl Elena, who were the slaves of Mr. Alexander Dickson.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 189.

† Nos. 167 and 168.

‡ No. 169.

No. 110.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 9, 1855.

HAVING been informed that the slave-trader D'Avelar had gone to the River Zaire for two cargoes of slaves, I thought it my duty to warn the Imperial Government of the fact, in a note herein inclosed, and to recommend the stationing of a cruizer off the coast, between Bahia and Campos.

I beg also to forward to your Lordship copy of Senhor Paranhos' reply, in which he states that the necessary means will be taken to watch that part of the coast where apprehensions might be entertained, and that great vigilance will be recommended to the authorities in Bahia and Espirito Santo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 110.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 20, 1855.

I HAVE been informed that from a letter which has been received from Loanda, it appears that the notorious slave-trader Antonio Severino d'Avelar had gone to the River Zaire with two palhabotes for cargoes of slaves, destined, ostensibly, for the Havana, but suspected to be intended for attempting a landing between Bahia and Campos, where the said Avclar has numerous connections.

I have thought it my duty to bring this report to your Excellency's knowledge, in order that the Imperial Government may take the necessary precautions, by stationing a cruizer off the coast between Bahia and Campos, until the 15th or 20th of October, and by this means to frustrate any attempt which might be made, during that time, by the slave-traders, who, allured to fresh enterprises by the devastation which the cholera has made amongst the black population near Bahia and in this province, might succeed in devising a means of effectuating a landing of Africans, which would be sure to bring them in enormous profits.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 110.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, October 4, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., acknowledges the receipt of the note which Mr. W. Stafford Jerningham, &c., addressed to him on the 20th of last month.

The Undersigned thanks Mr. Jerningham for his communication, and although he does not apprehend that the loss of slaves occasioned by the epidemic can be a strong incentive, and still less that the slave-traders will dare, whatever may be the hope of lucre, to return to the Empire with their criminal speculations, he immediately transmitted the information of which it treats to the Minister of Justice, by whom proper measures have been taken.

All the suspected places between Bahia and Rio de Janeiro will be vigorously watched by the Brazilian cruizers; and the Presidents of the Provinces of Bahia, Espirito Santo, and Rio de Janeiro, will be especially instructed to cause the local authorities to redouble their vigilance.

The Undersigned said that the ravages committed by the epidemic amongst the negro population will not be a sufficient stimulus towards the revival of the Traffic, which the efforts of the Imperial Government have succeeded in extinguishing. Mr. Jerningham will agree with the Undersigned if he only

considers that it was not because the incentive of great lucre was wanting, for that has always existed, and has increased since the repression became efficacious throughout the Empire, but that it is the certainty of the failure of any expedition, which has caused the slave-traders to abandon the coast of Brazil.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

No. 111.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon — (Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 9, 1855.

RESPECTING the fate of the mulatto woman, Antonia Thereza da Graça, and her child, said to have been sold into slavery in Rio de Janeiro, I have instituted the necessary inquiries, and am happy now to inform your Lordship that this woman and her child are living in perfect freedom, and that in the district where she resides she figures on the books of the chief authority there as a free woman, with all the privileges of a free citizen.

I beg to inclose copy of my letter to Mr. Taylor, Superintendent of the Brazilian Steam-packet Company, and his reply.

This gentleman states to have seen the woman, and has conversed with her, when she told him that no attempt whatever had been made to subdue her into slavery, and that she was living with a family of her own choosing.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 111.

Mr. Jerningham to Mr. Taylor.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 22, 1855.

WITH reference to the communication made to you last month by Mr. Morgan, at my desire, relative to the mulatto woman named Antonia Thereza da Graça, who, with her child, are said to have been brought to Rio de Janeiro from the Island of St. Vincent, in the steamer "Toccantins," belonging to the Company over which you preside; and as both that vessel and the chief engineer, who brought her out from England, and the "Paraná," which the said engineer has also subsequently brought out, are now in this port, I beg to inclose to you herewith copies of two letters sent to me by the Earl of Clarendon, trusting that you will, not only on the score of humanity but also in the interest of your Association, afford to me your able assistance, and use every means in your power towards ascertaining the truth with regard to the alleged sale of the said Antonia Thereza da Graça and her child into slavery, and report to me accordingly, either that the charge of so serious a matter is disproved, or if unhappily it should be founded, in order that I may take the necessary steps for the punishment of the delinquents and the restoration to freedom of the said Antonia Thereza da Graça and of her child.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 111.

Mr. Taylor to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 18, 1855.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 22nd ultimo, in which you request me, as President of the Brazilian Steam-packet Company, to ascertain and inform you about the truth of the case of a mulatto woman from

the Island of St. Vincent, named Antonia Thereza da Graça, who was said, both with her child, to have been sold into slavery at this port.

According to your request I have made the most minute investigations, and come to the conclusion that the charge brought upon the engineer of the "Toccantins" is false, and altogether void of foundation, as the said woman and her child are in the enjoyment of their personal liberty, and free as they left their country.

I had an interview with the said Antonia Thereza da Graça, in which she certified having come from St. Vincent in company of the engineer's family, as a wet nurse, whose service she left shortly after coming into this harbour, not finding herself quite comfortable; but that no attempt whatsoever was tried to subdue her into slavery, and that she was quite free, living with a family of her choosing.

I had the accused engineer brought to my presence, in which he stated that he engaged the said woman at St. Vincent as a wet nurse, but on no condition of sending her back at his expense; that some time after their arrival, having frequently reprimanded her for her misbehaviour, she left his service, and went to live with the said family in whose company I found her.

In verification of the above statement, I called upon the chief authority of the district, and found her name registered in his books as a free woman, and with all the privileges of a free citizen.

Hoping that the above information will be sufficient for the contradiction of the alleged case, and that it will meet your satisfaction, I am, &c.

(Signed) A. TAYLOR.

No. 112.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 11, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of September,* respecting the manumission of the slaves of the late John Craven, in which your Lordship was pleased to approve of my note to Senhor Paranhos on that subject, I now beg to forward to your Lordship copy of one which I have just addressed to his Excellency, to protest against these unfortunate persons in question being detained any longer in slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 112.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, October 10, 1855.

HER Majesty's Government having been pleased to approve of the note which I addressed to your Excellency on the 13th of July, respecting the delay in the manumission of the 3 slaves of the late John Craven, and not having received, up to this time, a categorical answer from your Excellency as to whether or not these unfortunate beings have as yet received their certificates of freedom—although your Excellency, in your note to me of the 20th of July, informed me that the reasons which threw obstacles in the way of the legal process were removed—I beg your Excellency to have the kindness now to acquaint me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, before the departure of this mail, whether these 3 captives have actually obtained their manumission, to which they are justly entitled since the death of Mr. Craven, which occurred in 1853.

Therefore, trusting in the honest and upright feeling of the Imperial Government upon this matter, I must protest against any further delay, and urgently request and insist that these 3 slaves, emancipated by the desire of their deceased master, John Craven, be immediately set at liberty.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 113.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 15, 1855.

I FEAR there has been, according to all accounts, a landing of slaves, about a month or six weeks ago, near Angra dos Reis, on the mainland behind Ilha Grande.

A captain of the Brazilian navy, who is likewise an engineer, was lately down at Angra, for the purpose of measuring land; and upon his return, he stated publicly, in a store at Rio de Janeiro, that he had heard when he was at Angra that a man, a Portuguese, named Mesquita, had landed 250 slaves in the vicinity of that town, and then sunk his vessel, where her hull is still partly to be seen above water.

On receiving this information, I directly went to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and communicated to him the paper giving me this information, with an urgent demand that this report should be most thoroughly sifted and investigated by the Brazilian Government, in order to find out whether it was correct or not.

He promised to do so, and said that they would send for Captain Leitão, and question him upon the subject.

Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Westwood, tells me that he hears, from other quarters than from whence I had my information, that a landing did take place, and that two vessels are preparing, down the coast southwards, for expeditions to the coast of Africa.

Admiral Johnstone had, some little time since, given orders to one of his steamers returning to Rio de Janeiro from the South, to visit, on her voyage, the several ports and likely places; so there is a chance, when this vessel arrives, that she may have found out something respecting the rumour of landing.

As the fact has not yet been established, and as the Brazilian Government have promised to investigate the matter immediately, I shall delay writing a public note until I know for certain that any landing has been effected; and then, if such proves to be the case, I will ask for the punishment of the offenders, and request more vigilance and more stringent measures against the Slave Trade than those that exist at present, and of which the Imperial Government seems to be so proud.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 114.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th ultimo,* respecting the proceedings of the slave-trader D'Avelar; and I have to inform you that I approve the course adopted by you in warning the Brazilian Government of his supposed intentions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 115.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 19, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 11th ultimo, I have to state that I approve of the further note which you addressed to Senhor Paranhos, respecting the continued delay which has taken place in completing the manumission of John Craven's 3 slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 116.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th ultimo, stating that you had been informed that a landing of negroes was said to have been effected on the Brazilian coast at Angra dos Reis; and I have to inform you that I approve of the course which you state you intended to pursue in case the rumour in question should prove to have been correct.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 117.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 8.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, November 9, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th ultimo, in which I informed your Lordship of the report which was current in Rio de Janeiro that a disembarkation of 200 Africans had been effected by a Portuguese named Mesquita, in a pilot boat at or near Angra dos Reis, and that I had communicated the private information which I had received on this subject to his Excellency Senhor Paranhos, who promised to acquaint the Minister of Justice with its contents, I beg now to have the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a note from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which his Excellency assures me that he has communicated my memorandum to Senhor Nabuco, the Minister of Justice, requesting his Excellency to bestow his best attention and consideration on this matter, and to be informed of the result of the investigation, as well as concerning the measures that would be taken to punish the delinquents, if the supposed piratical act had been perpetrated.

As the rumour continued to be confirmed, and the affair was much talked about in Rio de Janeiro, allusions to it being made in the newspapers, notwithstanding Senhor Paranhos' communications that an investigation had been set on foot, I, however, thought it my duty to address to his Excellency the following note, copy of which is hereto annexed, with the intent of urging forward this Government in their inquiry, and to give me a categorical answer if the report was true or false, and at the same time to make them aware of the surprise and pain Her Majesty's Government would experience in learning, should this disembarkation have been effected, that the slave-dealers were still able to set the penal laws of Brazil at defiance. I therefore implored the Brazilian Government to allow no obstacle to stand in their way in getting to the real truth of the matter; and that if a landing of slaves had taken place, to seize and punish most severely the persons therein concerned: besides this, it was also incumbent upon them to enact still more stringent laws with regard to Slave Trade, exercise greater vigilance, station more cruisers, and employ intelligent subordinates, so as to be able to frustrate successfully any further attempts of

piratical adventurers. For I told his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government could never place implicit confidence in the power of the Brazilian Government of repressing the Slave Traffic to this country, so long as the means at her disposal were not such as to render any landing of slaves impossible.

I also intimated to his Excellency that I had heard the report of a second attempt that had been made, to northward of Rio de Janeiro, between Cape San Thomé and Espirito Santo, and that 300 slaves had been put on shore, divided into lots, and conveyed in different directions inland. This reported landing was said to have been effected about the 13th or 14th of October.

As yet, this Government having, probably, not completed their investigation, I have not received any official answer to my note, to which a reply was promised me both by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Justice. I have, however, had conversations on this disagreeable subject both with Senhor Paranhos and Senhor Nabuco, and both Ministers, I must in justice add, have shown a willingness and determination to make the most rigorous researches.

Accordingly the police, accompanied by Captain Leitão, who is represented to have spread the report of this slave adventure, have, I am told, been down to Angra dos Reis; but Senhor Paranhos, two days ago, gave me to understand that Captain Leitão has not confirmed what he first advanced, yet he added that another man had hinted something about a disembarkation. However, his Excellency asserted that the police had neither discovered any Africans nor vestiges of the reported crime, nor did they find the remains of Mesquita's pilot-boat, which was said to be apparent somewhere off the coast in its half submerged state.

In an interview which I had not very long ago with Senhor Nabuco, Minister of Justice, his Excellency also told me that the report of the police was not ready, but from what he had learnt up to that time, nothing had been made out sufficient to establish the truth of a landing of Africans.

It has, however, been the custom here of slave-dealers to give out false rumours for the sake of distracting the attention of the police from the place where the dealers intended really to insure the delivery of their human cargoes; and from what I have lately heard, it would appear that preparations for a disembarkation had really been made near the banks of the River Itapemerim, in the Province of Espirito Santo, leading to the Fazenda of ; and that the disembarkation which lately did take place at Serinhaem, in the Province of Pernambuco, mentioned in my despatch of the 12th instant to your Lordship, was in reality intended for the River Itapemerim.

Another pilot-boat which is reported to have fitted out in the River Zaire, if she be not captured in Africa, may be expected here in Brazil on or before the 20th of November.

All this information has been communicated to the Brazilian Government and also to this Legation; and when I get any intelligence of this description, it is my invariable custom always to report it to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, so that the Brazilian Government may be always thoroughly acquainted with what may be hatching by the slave-dealers.

Since July, I believe the Brazilian Government have been informed, on different occasions, that vessels were fitting out in the River Zaire, with the object of slave-trading hither; and in proof of it, I beg to inclose to your Lordship copy of a letter which has been written to the Minister of Justice by a person resident in this country.

In this letter the writer insinuates that his warnings have not been properly attended to by the Government, and that if they had taken proper precautions, they would now be free from care. He then reminds his Excellency of his former communicated suspicions with respect to individuals and ships which have cleared out, although legally, for the African coast.

He then refers to the late purchase, at Rio de Janeiro, of a very fast American barque called the "*Grey Eagle*," and requests great vigilance to be exercised in her respect; and he advises the Government to station on the likely points, as heretofore, agents, to watch and give intelligence of what may be going on.

In order to show your Lordship that an attempt is supposed to be on foot to revive the Brazilian Slave Trade, I beg to forward copy of an extract from a

newspaper in Rio de Janeiro, called the "Grito Nacional," whose independent position (most of the others being under the influence of the Government) permits the insertion of articles of an unpalatable nature.

I have not been in the habit of taking this newspaper, but the number containing the above-mentioned extract was sent me anonymously.

It seems to me very well worth attention; and the names of the different vessels therein indicated, it might be useful, should your Lordship think so, to send to Her Majesty's African squadron for their information.

Your Lordship will accordingly perceive that, although the Government here may declare that the Traffic is extinct, it is not so yet; and I am inclined to think, as I have also intimated to the Brazilian Government, that, speculating upon the void made amongst the Blacks by the cholera, in Bahia and in this province, and on the attention of England being engrossed by the Crimean war, the slave-dealers are organising operations which will, no doubt, considerably perplex the Brazilian Government.

It is only the other day that I finally spoke to Senhor Paranhos on these serious matters, and I openly told him what the effects would be in England, if slave-dealing recommenced here; but his Excellency begged me to entertain no fears, for the Imperial Government were determined to repress it, and punish all offenders, however high placed they may be.

The Minister of Justice, Senhor Nabuco, has been, also, exceedingly satisfactory in his assurances. He declared to me that his Government would use all private and public influence they possess against the revival of the African Slave Trade; and I feel inclined to believe he will do his best in that respect, for I am told his Excellency is determined to put the laws in force, in spite of anybody, even his constituents, who are angry with him for his rigour, threatening not to return him at the next election.

The Brazilian Government are, no doubt, now sincerely interested in putting and keeping down the Slave Trade; but I doubt their ability to do so alone, unless they go to greater expense on this head than has lately been incurred.

Ill-paid officials will always (especially here) be in continued danger; or if they have the courage to do their duty, it will be chiefly in a slovenly manner. I therefore hinted to the Minister of Justice that money ought to be spent in this laudable object. His Excellency seemed to coincide with me; and I therefore hope that his Government, from motives of false economy, will not paralyse its good intentions by withholding the necessary means of keeping down Slave Trade.

We have continually been told that slave-trading to Brazil, at present, is impossible, on account of the severity of the Penal Code, the watchfulness of the Government, the instructions given to Presidents of Provinces, and the activity of the police; and yet your Lordship will see by my despatch of the 12th instant, that a vessel really arrived last month at the Island of St. Alexis, near Serinbaem, in the Province of Pernambuco, with 200 to 240 Africans, only 162 being captured by the Brazilians. This proves that the Traffic is not over; and a person well known for his frank opposition to Slave Trade, has declared that it will take ten years before Brazil would be quite free from any cares of this description.

I shall continue to be on the alert, and keep the Brazilian Government strictly up to their professions in matters of Slave Trade.

Senhor Paranhos' answer, inclosing Senhor Nabuco's report upon the investigation of the presumed landing at Angra dos Reis, I will forward in another despatch, directly I receive it.

Inclosure 1 in No. 117.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, October 14, 1855.

HAVING taken into the most serious consideration the communication made to me by Mr. W. S. Jerningham, &c., at our interview on the 12th instant, relative to the reported disembarkation of upwards of 200 Africans, about two months ago, in the neighbourhood of Angra dos Reis, by the Portu-

guese Mesquita, I hastened to transmit to the Minister of Justice a translation of the memorandum which Mr. Jerningham had the goodness to leave with me, and in which some information is given concerning the fact and the individual in question, which certainly must contribute towards facilitating the investigations which the case requires.

I have already had the honour verbally to assure Mr. Jerningham that the Imperial Government would promptly order that fact to be investigated in the most sure and efficacious manner, and that if, contrary to my expectation, it should be true, those criminals who may be met with within the action of the laws of the Empire, shall not go unpunished.

In accordance with this promise, I have just requested the Minister of Justice to bestow his best consideration on this affair, and to acquaint me with the result of the proceedings taken, as likewise of those which he may adopt towards the punishment of the delinquents, if, perchance, the investigations should confirm the communication made to me by Mr. Jerningham, and to whom I renew, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 117.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, October 22, 1855.

I BEG to have the honour of acknowledging your Excellency's note, under date of the 14th of October, informing me that the communication which I made to your Excellency, in a private interview, of a rumoured disembarkation of 200 new Africans in the vicinity of Angra dos Reis by a Portuguese named Mesquita, had been directly forwarded by you to the Minister of Justice.

Your Excellency, in the same note, adverts to the verbal assurances which you had previously given me that the Imperial Government would endeavour to ascertain, in the most efficacious manner, whether the fact of the rumoured disembarkation was correct or not; and that, if it proved to be well founded, the culpable persons, who came within the reach of the laws of this Empire, should not remain unpunished.

Your Excellency likewise adds that, in accordance with this promise, you had requested his Excellency the Minister of Justice to take the affair into serious consideration, and to be made acquainted with the result of the investigation, as also with the means that would be adopted to inflict punishment upon the delinquent in case the inquiry confirmed the truth of my information.

In thanking your Excellency for the desirable steps which you have taken in promoting the investigation of the affair in question, I beg at the same time to state that I feel extremely anxious to know whether the inquiry set on foot by his Excellency the Minister of Justice has, as yet, been attended with success, and to be officially informed whether or not a landing of 210 new Africans took place near Angra dos Reis, because the rumour to that effect is now publicly circulated in Rio de Janeiro, and, I am inclined to imagine, generally believed.

I am sorry to say that a further report was yesterday communicated to me, by a person worthy of credence, that a second disembarkation of 300 slaves had been effected to the northward, between San Thomé and Espirito Santo, and that these slaves were immediately divided into lots and conveyed in different directions inland.

To those who are conversant with the past sombre history of the Slave Trade, it is known that one landing, or an attempt at doing so, is generally followed, near at hand, by a second or a third; and it is said that, when Mesquita's schooner left the River Zaire with her cargo of Bozal blacks, there were two other vessels in those waters preparing to receive slaves for the coast of Brazil; consequently, if any landing to the northwards occurred fifteen days ago, it has been probably effected by one of the above-mentioned vessels.

In bringing the report of this second landing to the knowledge of the Imperial Government as well as the first, I have done so with the object of being officially informed by them if these reports are true or not.

I need not intimate to your Excellency—for of that you must be well

convinced—that if they are correct, what will be the effect of such intelligence in England, and throughout Brazil, and what surprise and pain Her Majesty's Government will experience in learning that, notwithstanding the solemn promises and praiseworthy efforts of the Imperial Government to repress and keep down the Traffic, piratical adventurers and crafty slave-dealers should still have it in their power, in spite of the penal laws at present in force in this country, to carry out their barbarous practices with success; and I greatly fear that any revival of this detestable commerce would tend to disturb the present good and amicable understanding happily existing between Great Britain and this Empire.

I trust, therefore, that the Imperial Government will allow no obstacle to stand in their way in making the most rigorous investigations, and that, if these landings have been effected, they will punish most severely the persons concerned in them, and at the same time pass still more stringent edicts, and devise still more vigilant means, by stationing more cruizers and employing very active and intelligent officials, so as to prevent the possibility of a recurrence; for your Excellency may rest assured that Her Majesty's Government cannot place implicit confidence in the power of the Imperial Government to repress and keep down the Traffic, as long as the means of repression at the disposal of Brazil are not such as to render the success of the attempts and aggressions of slave-dealers and slave-pirates impossible.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 117.

Extract from the "Grito Nacional" of November 3, 1855.

(Translation.)

IT is now known that those concerned in the Slave Trade are in the field, and that some disembarkations have already been effected, and that others are expected.

In Portugal this matter is notorious, as a friend of mine assures me who arrived there in the steamer "Maria II."

In Angola and Havana there are the Botelhos, Rodrigues, &c., who, availing themselves of the absence of the English forces now in the Crimea, do not forget that they owe to Brazil *all the means* for her aggrandizement, including Africans, who, according to the opinion of the late Senator Vasconcellos, "*come to civilize us.*"

For the country, that is one of the most important affairs. We have not lost sight of it, and were the first to treat of it.

Thus it is that it now behoves to ask, what has become of the *Portuguese schooner "Gratidão,"* which, on her arrival from Angola, was *under the surveillance* of the police, but which returned to that place on the 6th of January of last year, and has not yet returned to this port?

On the 7th of the same month the *Portuguese brig "Veloz"* sailed for Loanda, and has not yet returned.

On the 13th of April the *American brigantine "Monte Christo"* sailed for Loango; and on the 2nd of October the *Portuguese brig "Hae Allan"* sailed for Loanda, and, like the others, have not returned.

During the month of September of this year, not fewer than *five* vessels have left Africa, well understood under *two flags*; and amongst them the celebrated "*Zarya*," which, upon her voyage from Portugal, met here with impediments from the police on account of a slave * * * but which was sold, and went on her way to * * * Africa!

Apropos, who in this city was not acquainted with a certain Senhor Roque who greatly distinguished himself in the custom-house as a dispatcher, and was on that account dismissed? Well, a long time since he took his departure for the (Western) Isles to seek for colonists, who have not yet arrived; meanwhile it is known that he is in Angola * * *

The facility with which a vessel is cleared out for Africa is the reason why she never returns.

It is true that the slave-traders have no occasion to do so, because our

bays, and, above all, the River St. João, are there for the fitting out in safety as many vessels as may be necessary, and particularly when those persons interested have to come to this capital to have operations performed for hydrocele; is that not the case, Senhor guest in the house No. 16, in the Rua Direita?

But in all cases it is not proper that slavers should sail from our port.

In renewing this question, we shall shortly return to it, mentioning, as formerly, the names of the vessels, of those concerned, the points, &c., in order that the Government may take proper measures, having in view the *quality* of the greater part of the *employés* in those places of disembarkation, &c.

Inclosure 4 in No. 117.

Letter addressed by a person in Rio de Janeiro to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, November 1, 1855.

YOUR Excellency, on re-perusal of my former communications, will see that they perfectly coincide with what is now appearing. Although your Excellency had been informed that the path cut through the forest (which I communicated to you had been opened) did not exist, I again repeat that it does exist; that it was cut near the banks of the River Itapemerim, leading to the plantation; and that the disembarkation which it appeared was intended to have been effected in the Province of Pernambuco, was in reality destined for the former place. And with respect to the second pilot boat, your Excellency may reckon (according to the accounts from Africa, which I communicated to you) if she be not captured in Africa, she will be arriving on or before the 20th instant.

Somehow the indications furnished have been unheeded, and the suspicions disregarded, of fresh attempts at slave-trading, perhaps for want of sufficient proofs, or else from the persuasion that no adventurer would run the risk, as was to have been hoped; but perhaps if proper measures had been taken, the Government would now have been free from care. I remind your Excellency that I indicated a suspicion, and almost a certainty, that the well-known Captain José Francisco Rosa was engaged in the traffic, who arrived here from Loanda, in the Portuguese brig "*Julia*," on account of the house of Manoel de Almeida Cardoza, and Francisco da Cruz Maia; also, that investigations were to have been set on foot respecting Antonio (o Manhoso), and touching his frequent trips to Campos, and that even then a rumour was spread, and came to my knowledge, of a projected attempt to effect a landing there.

I communicated to the police the clandestine departure of Rosa, on the 30th of September, in a vessel belonging to Maia; and called the attention of the police to the many vessels which are now sailing to Africa (although with legal cargoes), but have had no solution of the result of these communications, nor whether I am to continue my inquiries into these matters; thus Slave Trade matters have become complicated, and renders it necessary that I should rouse afresh the agents whom I had stationed on different points.

Lately an American barque, named the "*Grey Eagle*," was purchased. I recommend great vigilance to be observed with respect to this suspected vessel.

I have just offered a suggestion to the Chief of the Police, which I hope will be productive of a good effect; the sailors, boatswain, and mate, of the pilot-boat who escaped at Pernambuco, must necessarily come here, and therefore I suggested the observance of the greatest vigilance on the arrival of the steamers from the north, as most probably some of them may come in them, and be arrested; and if any one of them should be detected, we shall then obtain the true clue towards the easy discovery of the whole proceeding, when your Excellency can act according to your wishes.

I consider it indispensable to establish agents upon different points, as heretofore; finally, if, as it is to be supposed, the other pilot-boat should make her appearance, it will certainly be to the north of Campos that an attempt will be made to land her cargo; the news which I have received, and the path cut through the woods, inducing that belief, and even the recent appearance here of Joaquim Thomas de Faria, a notorious and obstinate slave-trader.

Your Excellency cannot but have observed that a great number of empty casks, fit for holding water, have been sent to Caravellas from this port.

No. 118.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 8.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, November 12, 1855.

ONE of the Brazilian steam-packets which arrived at Rio on the 24th of October, I am sorry to say brought the unpleasant news of a piratical attempt at Slave Trade in the Province of Pernambuco.

Immediately that the affair was communicated to the Minister of Justice, Senhor Nabuco, his Excellency forwarded to me the intelligence in a note, which I have now the honour to inclose to your Lordship, and by which your Lordship will see that 162 Bozal Africans (out of a supposed cargo of 200) have been captured by the Brazilians, and that orders had been issued by the President of Pernambuco to cause the pilot-boat and the said Africans to be brought from the place of capture, near the Island of St. Alexis on the bar of the River Serinhaem, to the capital of that province, in order that legal proceedings might be instituted accordingly.

Upon my calling a few days afterwards upon the Minister of Justice, to thank him for this information, I was given to understand that his Excellency had not received the full particulars of the capture from the President, further than what had been communicated to me; nor has the correspondence which it is said was found on board the pilot-boat, been sent up from Pernambuco (as far as I can make out), by any of the recent steamers that have arrived from the north, which appears to me very extraordinary.

I now take the liberty of inclosing to your Lordship an extract from the "*Jornal do Commercio*" of Rio de Janeiro, giving some details of the seizure of the above-mentioned schooner, on the bar of the River Serinhaem. This newspaper, which cannot be accused of any predilection for England, published a letter from its correspondent in Pernambuco, which indicates that there must have been some negligence on the part of the subordinates, who appear to have been mostly absent, either on sick leave or otherwise, when the occurrence took place; and the person who really captured the pilot-boat and the 162 Africans, viz., 47 adult negroes, 105 youths of divers ages, and 10 negresses, was the Colonel Vasconcellos Drummond, who, with the assistance of the flying detachment of the district, and some peasants commanded by an inspector, effected the seizure.

The same correspondent alludes to the rumour that there were in all 220 Blacks, when the vessel first arrived off the coast of Brazil, and hints that some of them may have been appropriated.

He says also that the commander of the schooner had been on shore, and though taken, under arrest, to the presence of some one in authority, that the captain had disappeared, as well as the crew.

It appears that the Brazilian Government have been warned of the danger ever since July; and that they had sent orders to the President to take measures, both on shore and at sea, to prevent any disembarkation. Even on the eve of the seizure, the President of the Province received a despatch from the Brazilian Commodore that the vessel cruising on the south coast of the province had not discovered any signs of slave-trading, and Her Majesty's ship "*Rifleman*" seems not either to have had the good luck of falling in with the rumoured slaver she was dispatched to intercept.

The Royal mail-steamer "*Tamar*" has brought me the inclosed despatch from Mr. Cowper, giving the details of this unfortunate affair, as far as has come to his knowledge; and he has thought himself justified in forwarding to the President of the Province a strong representation on the subject, in which he asks for explanations, and attributes to the negligence of the authorities the robbery of 76 Africans from the illicit cargo of 240, by different individuals.

Mr. Cowper gives as a rumour that the pilot-boat brought 600 slaves, but he thinks that from her size, which is not much above 30 tons, such a thing is most improbable; that he doubts very much if this vessel ever went to Africa at all; and he is inclined to the belief that this miserable captured pilot-boat may have received her cargo from some larger vessel in the offing.

I have had some conversation with Senhor Paranhos upon the subject of this capture, when his Excellency made the most of it, to prove that his

Government were on the alert ; and three days ago he told me that the Government had dispatched a steamer to Pernambuco, with orders to search further into the affair, and that they wished above all to arrest the captain and crew of this captured slaver.

I have requested the Brazilian Government to give me the fullest explanation of the accusations of negligence and want of precaution which seems to have existed in the Province of Pernambuco.

Senhor Paranhos verbally explained how the different subordinates were absent from their posts in or about Serinhaem, when the affair took place ; but as it has been represented to me that some one of influence and family was interested in this slave speculation, I have sent in to his Excellency a note, requiring a justification of this negligence, which may have been brought about by undue influential and other means ; and I beg to inclose copy of this note to your Lordship.

The person who is supposed to have been chief originator of this speculation arrived in Rio de Janeiro, on the 3rd instant, by the Royal mail-packet, and is well known in the annals of Slave Trade, and the Minister of Justice had, I was told, given orders for his being arrested.

This has not yet been effected.

Inclosure 1 in No. 118.

The Minister of Justice to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

October 24, 1855.

TO the Most Excellent Mr. W. S. Jerningham, the Councillor José Thomas Nabuco de Araujo has the honour to present his compliments, and to communicate to him that the President of the Province of Pernambuco, in a despatch dated the 16th instant, acquaints him that he had been just informed by the Delegate of Police at Serinhaem, that he, the said Delegate, vigorously supported by the Commandant of the flying detachment of the Rio Formoso, captured, near the Island of Santo Aleixo, a pilot-boat which arrived there with 162 Africans, who were in custody of the said Commandant, and that he was taking measures for the purpose of sending the said Africans and the pilot-boat to the capital, in order that further proceedings may be instituted.

Inclosure 2 in No. 118.

Extract from the "Jornal do Commercio" of November 4, 1855.

(Translation.)

Recife, Pernambuco, October 27, 1855.

THE most important fact that I have to mention is the seizure of a schooner on the bar of the River Serinhaem with 162 Africans. A private letter from that place announces that occurrence in the following manner :

Some days ago a schooner was observed at anchor near the Island of St. Aleixo, and a rumour was instantly spread that she was affected with cholera morbus ; but it became known, on the day before yesterday, that she had on board a cargo of Africans, and that she was preparing to land them. That district was without any police authorities who could take measures in so urgent a case, because the Chief Acting Delegate, Antonio Germano Rigueira Pinto de Souza, is in this city, not one of his subordinates is in active service, and the Sub-Delegate has been sick these two months ; in short, the Municipal Judge, Dr. M. Theodoro Freire, had gone to the capital to enjoy the leave of absence obtained, and Dr. João Baptista Gonçalves Campo had transferred his judicial authority to Dr. Borges Leal, the Municipal Judge of Barreiros, he having to proceed to Pará. In this conjuncture, Colonel Gaspar de Menezes e Vasconcellos Drummond, reassumed the exercise of his post of Delegate, which, through ill-health, he had left in 1849, and took measures for the seizure of the schooner and Africans, in calling out the detachment of the district (which came forward with incredible rapidity), and, until due examination was effected, he placed an

inspector, with a force of peasants, at the bar opposite the island, after which the said Colonel proceeded to seize the schooner, or pilot-boat, with 47 negroes, 105 youths of divers ages, and 10 negresses, all of them in the most deplorable state of nudity and complete state of debility.

As many persons here complain of what they call my turn for satire, and I am resolved to pass henceforward for a good boy, I will not mention certain rumours afloat here respecting that capture; I will not even say that it is asserted, by a very sedate person, that the first report of the Commandant of the detachment spoke of 220 (odd) negroes. I will not repeat things which have not yet been investigated. It suffices to say that the fact of the seizure is official, and that praises, and even thanks, to the authority who accomplished it were bestowed by the Government. In this country the custom has been established to thank public functionaries for having performed their duty. I always thought that thanks implied the idea of a favour having been received, of a civility, a polite attention, &c.; I now begin to believe that it is only as a favour, and not otherwise, that a man is to perform his duty.

The Commander of the schooner, although he had been on shore, and was taken under arrest to the presence of some person in authority, has disappeared, as well as the crew; nobody knows anything of them. The "*Liberal Pernambucano*" (newspaper) has availed itself of the occasion to accuse the President, accounting him responsible for that attempt to introduce Africans; but I do not agree with it.

From the publication of the Government's proceedings it is seen that since July they having received information, but lacking details, sent orders, not only to the police to use precautions on shore, but also to the Commander of the naval station to take measures at sea. And, in fact, on the very eve of the seizure, the President received a despatch from that Commander informing him that the vessel cruising on the south coast of the province had not discovered any signs of slave-trading. Even the English steamer "*Rifleman*," which went upon a cruise, saw nothing, and it is said that she met with the schooner and made her heave-to, and was satisfied with the report made that she was conveying a cargo of logs of mangue wood.

It now remains to be known who the owner of the schooner and cargo is; but although it is whispered who that person is, no proofs have as yet been discovered upon which judicial proceedings can be grounded.

Inclosure 3 in No. 118.

Consul Cowper to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Pernambuco, October 29, 1855.

IT is with deep regret that I have to announce the renewal of the African Slave Trade in this province; and that the negligence of the authorities has been so palpable and extraordinary that I have felt it to be my duty to protest against it.

I will first state to you the facts of the case, and then proceed to the reports which are in circulation respecting this nefarious proceeding.

In the month of July last the President addressed a despatch to the Chief of Police, which was published, according to custom, in the "*Diario*," desiring him to instruct the police authorities about Serinhaem to be vigilant, as the Government had received information of an intended attempt at Slave Trade about the embouchure of that river. What steps were taken by that functionary I am unable to say; but upon the 17th instant the "*Diario*" contained the astounding announcement that a slave-ship had actually arrived at the spot designated by the President, that all the authorities were absent, and that the vessel had been allowed to remain at anchor for three days unmolested betwixt the Island of St. Aleixo and the mouth of the Serinhaem; that Colonel Menezes de Drummond, a wealthy Senhor "*de Engenho*" in that neighbourhood, constituted himself Delegate of Police, seized the vessel and 162 Africans, which he retained in custody.

Upon the announcement becoming public, the President immediately sent down a man-of-war, which brought the vessel and her Africans up here, and they remain at the disposal of the Government.

I had sent Her Majesty's ship "Rifleman" some time before to look for this slaver, but she returned here without falling in with her; and when I heard of her actual arrival, I sent an agent down to the spot, and I found that one individual alone had stolen, first, 36 of the Blacks, and afterwards, 40 more, and no doubt thefts on a smaller scale were also perpetrated.

The foregoing circumstances are facts; the reports are, that a company has been formed here for the importation of untattooed African children; that when once landed they may pass for Creoles; that this vessel is the first of the line, and that she was laden with 600, and that four more are expected.

The part of these reports which appears the most improbable is, that the present vessel brought so many as 600 Africans, for although they are almost all boys, she does not measure much above 30 tons, and has scarcely any room for stowage or cooking, and is in every respect a miserable-looking craft. I doubt, myself, if she ever went to Africa, and incline to the opinion that she received her cargo from some larger vessel in the offing.

The encouragement given by the negligence of the authorities to a renewal of this long-abandoned Traffic here, caused me to protest; I have done so with moderation, and make no allusion to the imputation cast upon the Government by the Opposition journals.

I hope that this, together with the very *à propos* arrival of the Admiral here, may cause the provincial authorities to act with the same good faith as the Imperial Government appears to be.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 118.

Consul Cowper to the President of the Province of Pernambuco.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Province of Pernambuco, has the honour to address his Excellency Senhor Bento José da Cunha Figueredo, President of the Province of Pernambuco, &c., upon the subject of the recent notorious case of African Slave Trade, which has so unhappily occurred at the mouth of the River Serinhaem.

It would appear from the official column of the "Diario de Pernambuco" of the 5th of July last, that the Government of his Excellency was in possession of the fact that a slave-ship was expected to land her illicit cargo at or about the above locality, and issued the necessary instructions, through the Chief of the Police, to the local authorities, to be vigilant, and to prevent the infringement of the law; notwithstanding which, it is stated in the "Diario de Pernambuco" of the 17th instant, that when the slaver actually appeared, not one of those authorities was at his post.

The consequence of this culpable and inexplicable negligence was, according to the information which the Undersigned has received, that of about 240 Africans, composing her human cargo, 76 were stolen, and consigned, with their posterity, to perpetual slavery.

The Undersigned is far from wishing to embarrass the Government of his Excellency; and nothing could be more satisfactory to him than the assurance that the statements contained in the "Diario," and the information received by himself, are erroneous; but until this is done, he feels it to be his duty, as the Representative of Her Britannic Majesty's Government in this province, to recall to his Excellency's recollection the engagement entered into betwixt his Government and that of Brazil in the Convention of the 23rd of November, 1826, and to protest against the negligence of the above-named authorities, as a breach of its stipulations, as an act at variance with the loyal endeavour of the Imperial Government to put down Slave Trade, and as an encouragement to the renewal of the long-abandoned and infamous Traffic in this province.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 118.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1855.

IN different accounts which have reached this capital from the town of Pernambuco, I find mention is made of the inexplicable absence of the different subordinate authorities from their posts, when the arrival and subsequent capture of a pilot-boat near Serinhaem, by the ex-Subdelegado, Colonel Vasconcellos Drummond, took place.

It has been said that the cause why these authorities were absent is, that one of them was ill, and the other was on leave; but your Excellency must allow me to state that I cannot see the reason why, if the absence of these officers was due to necessity, others could not have been sent to replace them, especially as it was known beforehand that an attempt was expected to take place in that quarter ever since the month of July.

This certainly argues negligence on the part of those whose duty it is to insure the best precautions being taken; and I cannot think that Her Majesty's Government will view this matter in any other light.

Although, owing to the efforts of Colonel Vasconcellos Drummond and others, 162 Africans have been seized, I must mention to your Excellency that it is now strongly averred that the original cargo of the pilot-boat consisted of 200 slaves; and Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco informs me that one individual alone stole 36 Blacks, and afterwards 40 more.

Now, whether this theft occurred before or after the capture, it does not appear, although it is affirmed that the above slaver was at anchor some time off the Island of St. Alexis before she was captured by Senhor Drummond. As yet the whole of this business partakes of a most strange and mysterious character; and although I am convinced of the good faith and willingness of the Imperial Government to proceed honourably in the suppression of the Traffic, yet I cannot but apprehend that something has existed, or is existing, sufficiently strong to paralyze the progress of the investigation into this slave-trading transaction of Serinhaem. It is now nearly a month since this pilot-boat was taken, and no further information has been given respecting the seizure than was communicated at first to this Legation. The correspondence said to be found on board is also represented not to have been forwarded by the President of Pernambuco to this Court; nor have the captain and crew, who were first of all described to have been brought before an official person, but who then disappeared, been again arrested.

It is now even hinted that a person of high connections in the north of Brazil is implicated in this nefarious transaction; can this be true or not?

A well-known slave-dealer, who was denounced some time ago as being mixed up with the late project of importing slaves from the River Zaire, arrived in Rio de Janeiro by the last English steamer, yet I have not been able to learn if the Imperial Government have taken steps to verify his culpability or not.

I am well aware that the Imperial Government have taken other precautions towards the North, at Campos and Espirito Santo, to intercept the second pilot-boat that may be expected during the whole of this month; but what measures, during the last twenty days, have really been instituted towards obtaining a clue to the Serinhaem affair and its presumed ramifications?

With all due respect to the Imperial Government, I must confess that it seems to me that there is a want of energy somewhere; and it would ill become me, in my present position at this Court, not to warn the Imperial Government of the danger which is threatening our friendly relations by these indications of a reappearance of slave adventures; and I wish to impress most deeply upon the minds of the Imperial Government the imperious necessity of crushing at once, without favour or distinction, any attempt at a resurrection of the African Slave Trade, by striking a panic amongst those who may be concerned in guilty speculations, that the penal laws against the Slave Trade offenders, which the Brazilian Government have, with such honour to themselves, framed for the total suppression of the Slave Traffic, will be most strictly and severely executed.

No. 119.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 8.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1855.

I HAVE received the report, inclosed in a note from Senhor Paranhos, on the investigation which was instituted upon the rumoured landing of slaves at Angra dos Reis, copies of which I beg to forward herewith to your Lordship, and by which your Lordship will perceive that the Brazilian Government are of opinion that the rumoured disembarkation was without foundation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 119.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, November 11, 1855.

I HAD the honour to receive the communication addressed to me by Mr. Jerningham under date of the 22nd of last month, acknowledging the receipt of the note which I addressed to him on the 14th of the said month, and whereby Mr. Jerningham was informed of the serious attention paid by me to the report received by him, that a landing of Africans had been effected, upwards of two months ago, to the southward of this port.

In returning thanks for the measures which I requested the Minister of Justice to adopt in respect to the above-mentioned information, Mr. Jerningham at the same time manifested to me that he was exceedingly anxious to know whether the researches ordered by the Government had been successful, and to learn the result of them.

Mr. Jerningham said that the rumour of that disembarkation was now publicly circulating in Rio de Janeiro, and that he was inclined to the belief that it was generally credited.

The apprehensions which that news caused Mr. Jerningham to entertain, were naturally increased by another communication which he had just received from a credible person, that another landing of slaves had been effected to the north of the Port of Rio de Janeiro, between Cape St. Thomé and a certain point in the Province of Espirito Santo, where the Africans were immediately divided into lots, and sent into the interior in different directions.

In referring to these rumours, the latter of which coincides, in Mr. Jerningham's opinion, with another which he had recently communicated to the Imperial Government, that two pilot-boats, which were receiving Africans in the River Zaire in order to bring them to Brazil, where they might arrive in all the last month, Mr. Jerningham adds:—

(Vide note to Senhor Paranhos of the 22nd of October, from "In bringing the report of this second landing to the knowledge of the Brazilian Government," to the end of that note.)

I now communicate to Mr. Jerningham the steps taken by order of the Minister of Justice, and the result thereof, in respect to the news of a supposed disembarkation of Africans in the neighbourhood of the city of Angra dos Reis by the Portuguese subject Mesquita.

It is proper beforehand to consider, what cannot have escaped Mr. Jerningham's reflection, the unlikelihood of a landing having been effected in the proximity of so populous and frequented a city as Angra dos Reis, without the knowledge of the authorities, and with inviolate secrecy, during a period of above two months.

The destination of Africans safely imported, conveyed by short cuts into the interior of the country, and afterwards mixed up with others in the existing plantations, may be concealed for a length of time, but it is not possible to conceal a disembarkation which depends upon the concurrence of a number of people, and of many of the persons concerned therein.

The information brought to my knowledge by Mr. Jerningham did not present in itself a sufficient basis for a certain and rigorous investigation. That basis could only be furnished by the depositions of two persons who were therein designated as informers, and that was the first step ordered to be taken by the Minister of Justice.

In the annexed copies, Mr. Jerningham will find the judicial depositions of Leitão and Barboza, which differ not only from the information which refers to them, but also from each other.

Leitão does not confirm what he is said to have stated, in the presence of Barboza. He refers to the wreck of a vessel in the neighbourhood of Angra dos Reis, which was reported in the "Correio Mercantil" of this city, in its number of the 20th of July last.

The deponent Barboza, partly confirming the information lodged, states what, he says, was told him by Leitão, and says that he is acquainted with Mesquita, regarding whom he furnishes information, but he does not say from his own knowledge, or from hearing Leitão say it, that the former (Mesquita) was the captain of the schooner in question.

The vague and contradictory nature of these two depositions has deprived the news of all foundation, and doubtless confirms the belief that no such disembarkation took place.

It is true that the "Correio Mercantil" of the 20th of July published the fact of a vessel having been wrecked on the coast of the Island of Marambaia, and thence arose the suspicion of some landing having been effected. But the steps taken, and researches which the Imperial Government immediately ordered to be made, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the wrecked vessel was suspected of having been engaged in the Slave Trade, removed all doubts, and demonstrated that no disembarkation had taken place in those parts, and that the loss of the vessel was occasioned by a casualty, and through stress of the elements.

The local authorities, and the commanders of vessels-of-war employed cruising upon those points, affirm that no attempt at a landing of Africans had been made during the period referred to, as Mr. Jerningham will see from the Inclosures Nos. 3 and 7.

The Imperial Government will not lose sight of this object, but are firmly persuaded that the fact, of which information was lodged at Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, is the pure invention of some inconsistent or ill-intentioned individual.

As to the accounts of a second landing of 300 Africans, to the north of Cape St. Thomé, I am persuaded that they are as groundless as the former, but the Imperial Government have not disregarded them, and await the information which, in compliance with their orders, is to be furnished by the Presidents of the before-mentioned provinces.

Mr. Jerningham knows, because it has been published in the newspapers of this city, that on the 13th of last month a vessel was wrecked to the north of Cape St. Thomé, which was the Belgian barque "Nyverheid," bound from Antwerp to Santos. The information furnished to the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty coincides with the account of that disaster, and it appears that it had no other origin or foundation.

I believe that these explanations will be received with satisfaction by Mr. Jerningham; and although they, and the important seizure recently effected in the Province of Pernambuco, perfectly reply to the remarks and insinuations with which Mr. Jerningham closed his confidential letter, to which I now return an answer, I cannot, withal, refrain from noticing the unjust distrust revealed by those expressions used by him.

The scrupulosity of the Imperial Government in the repression of the Slave Trade is so well proved by their acts, that no doubts can exist on that score, even although a disembarkation should with impunity be effected, under the favour of the locality, and of unforeseen circumstances, and much less when only unfounded rumours are presented, which, perhaps, have been purposely spread with speculative views.

Mr. Jerningham must be well convinced that the suppression of the Slave Trade is not only for Brazil a principle of civilization and humanity, as for other nations, but also chiefly one of political interest—an interest of public order and her future welfare. No one, therefore, can be more pledged than the Imperial

Government towards effecting that suppression, which is a question in which her honour is concerned in the face of the world, a question of great political importance in the face of the public opinion of the country.

But, as such is the case, as facts, and not only words, affirm and guarantee, the Imperial Government ought not to consider themselves obliged, every time that a rumour is propagated, or any vague and uncertain information is lodged, to order investigations to be instituted which weary the zeal of the authorities, draw off their attention from those points where it is most required, and occasion useless expense.

The Imperial Government fully confide in the probity, prudence, and vigilance of which their local authorities and cruizers have given so many proofs. The means with which the Imperial Government succeeded in extinguishing the traffic in Africans on the coasts of Brazil, are the same as those now in action to prevent and chastise any attempt on the part of daring smugglers. The efficacy of those means, and the public opinion of the country, insure the impossibility of the reproduction of so detestable a Trade in Brazil.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 119.

The Vice-President of the Province of Rio de Janeiro to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

Palace of the Government of Rio de Janeiro,

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

November 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency the inclosed copy of a private communication from the Chief of the Police of this province, dated the 31st ultimo, accompanied by the original of the interrogatory of the captain of the navy, Francisco Vieira Leitão, in observance of your Excellency's private order of the 24th, relative to the news of the disembarkation of Africans, of which your Excellency's former despatch of the 10th of that month treated.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

VISCONDE DE BAEPENDY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 119.

The Chief of Police to the Vice-President of the Province of Rio de Janeiro.

(Translation.)

Police Office of the Province of Rio de Janeiro,

Excellent Sir,

October 31, 1855.

IN compliance with your Excellency's order of the 27th instant, I interrogated, under oath, the post-captain Francisco Vieira Leitão, on the subject-matter of that order, and that of the Minister of Justice, to which it refers, and annexed I have the honour to bring to your knowledge the declaration made by the said post-captain. In forwarding to your Excellency this declaration, the grounds of which are the same as those published in the "Correio Mercantil" of the 20th July, that on the 12th of the preceding month a vessel grounded on the coast of Marambaia, without any crew, with her sails bent and her helm secured, I think it proper to remind you that the necessary investigations were then instituted, in order to ascertain the correctness of that news, and whether the said vessel had brought a cargo of Africans; and for that purpose, having addressed myself to the respective local authority, he answered me that such a fact had not occurred, assuring me that no disembarkation had taken place, which information I had the honour to transmit to your Excellency, in my report of the 2nd of August of the present year.

(Signed)

JOSE CAETANO DE ANDRADE PINTO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 119.

Interrogatory of Francisco Vieira Leitão.

ON the 31st day of the month of October, 1855, in the Police-office of the Province of Rio de Janeiro, before the respective Chief of Police, Dr. José Caetano de Andrade Pinto, and of myself, amanuensis of this court, came and appeared the post-captain Francisco Vieira Leitão, who, having sworn upon oath to tell the truth, replied as hereunder to the following questions put to him by the said magistrate:—On being asked whether he had said, on the 6th instant, in the warehouse of the merchant João José Barboza, that, having been recently employed in the measurement of lands, in the neighbourhood of Angra dos Reis, the place was pointed out to him where, two months before, a schooner had landed 200 Africans and where the schooner had been scuttled; whether he had been told that the schooner was commanded by the Portuguese named Mesquita, who had last year safely disembarked 600 slaves in Cuba, and afterwards went to the River Zaire, and there fitted out the said schooner, which brought the cargo of Africans above alluded to; whether he knows the said Mesquita; and, finally, to tell all that he knows in regard to this subject. He replied, that, having left Rio de Janeiro on the 19th of August last, for Jerumerim, for the purpose of rectifying the chart of the coast of Brazil, on his arrival at that place, he searched for the best pilots of that part of the country, and whilst reconnoitering the beach of Marambaia, he was told that a pilot-boat had gone on shore there, but no one knew the exact spot where she was wrecked; he afterwards learnt that rumour was unfounded, and that the news had been published by the “Mercantil” on the 20th July; that he, notwithstanding, made more minute inquiries, but could not discover anything further than what the said “Mercantil” had published. That he returned to this capital on the 24th September, and when he presented himself to the Minister of Marine, he related what had passed to his Excellency. That on the 6th instant, having sought the Viscount of Barbacena, in the house of the merchant João José Barboza, at No. 22 in the Rua de San Pedro, where he is in the habit of speaking to him, a conversation was going on respecting our daily press, and that he then said that the “Mercantil” of the 20th July had announced a landing of Africans on the beach of Marambaia, but that no such landing had taken place, and much less the wreck of a pilot-boat; to which he added that a certain Mr. Reed, who was present, said that the British Government knew of two vessels, of similar rigs, being in the River Zaire, for slave-trading. That subsequently Barboza related that a youth named Mesquita had made a voyage to the coast, and that he the deponent ought to know him, as he had seen him in his (Barboza’s) house, but that when he goes there, as it is only to seek Viscount Barbacena, he does not pay much attention to the persons who are there assembled, with whom he has no relations. That the conversation ended, and he withdrew.

Having been asked whether he had heard, in Angra dos Reis, the news of the wreck of a pilot-boat on the beach of Marambaia, he replied that that report was current there, but that no one knew at what spot it occurred.

And the interrogatory being closed, the said Chief of Police and post captain have signed this along with me, Mathias Moreira Barreiros, clerk of the court.

(Signed)

ANDRADE PINTO.

FRANCISCO VIEIRA LEITAO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 119.

The Chief of Police of the City of Rio de Janeiro to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

City of Rio de Janeiro Police Office,
October 27, 1855.

IN observance of the private despatch of your Excellency, dated the 24th instant, I ordered the merchant João José Barboza to be again summoned to appear before me, and caused him to make a declaration upon oath of all that

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he knew relative to the subject-matter of the other private despatch of the 22nd of this same month, the result whereof is contained in the copy of the deposition which I have the honour to bring to the knowledge of your Excellency, whom God preserve.

(Signed)

JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINAMBU.

Inclosure 6 in No. 119.

Deposition of João José Barboza.

(Translation.)

ON the 27th day of October, 1855, in this city of Rio de Janeiro, and in the Police Office, came and appeared before Dr. João Luis Vieira Causausão de Sinambu, Chief of Police of the same, the merchant João José Barboza, a resident in the Rua de San Pedro, at No. 22, who having taken the oath to tell the truth, was interrogated as follows by the said magistrate :—

Upon being asked his name, age, state, and profession: he answered, that his name is João José Barboza; that he is fifty-four years old; is a bachelor; and followed the profession of a merchant, and as such is registered in this city of Rio de Janeiro, with a commercial house at No. 22, Rua de San Pedro, and resides at his country house in the neighbourhood of Botafogo.

On being asked to tell what he knew relative to the landing of Africans, which is said to have been effected about two months ago at Ilha Grande, in the Province of Rio de Janeiro: he answered, that he has no positive knowledge of anything on that subject; and that all that he heard was in a conversation of the Post-captain Francisco Vieira Leitão, in his said commercial house, in the presence of the Viscount Barbacena and of Mr. Alexander Reid, a British subject, about twenty days ago, saying that when he recently was on the Ilha Grande the pilot of the vessel in which he was going told him that near to that place a vessel had been sunk, which was engaged in the Traffic in Africans, after having landed 200 of them.

Being also asked whether he knows the name of the vessel, and by whom she was commanded, he replied that he did not.

Upon being asked if he knew the youth Mesquita, the Portuguese mate of the Portuguese brigantine "Forte," he replied, that he was acquainted with him; and that that youth having been here out of employ he, this deponent, had employed him in that vessel, which was the property of Miranda and Sons, and consigned to this deponent; that the said vessel went hence to the Cape of Good Hope with a cargo of coffee, having been freighted by the German house of Frederick Froelick, and returned to Rio de Janeiro, whence she proceeded to Santos in ballast, freighted by Tamm and Wehner, and thence went with a cargo of sugar to Buenos Ayres, from which place she again returned to Rio de Janeiro, where the said Mesquita left her, and she went to Antwerp.

Being asked whether he knew what became of the said Mesquita, he answered, that he left Rio for London in a brig laden with produce of the country, and that he has heard that the said Mesquita had subsequently gone to the Havana, but could not say or affirm whether the Slave Trade or not was the object of his voyage; and that he knows nothing more besides what he has said; and that he stated as much to his friend the said Englishman Reid.

Being asked, finally, whether he knew where the said Mesquita was at present, he, the deponent, answered that he did not.

The Chief of Police therefore closed the interrogatory, and has signed this deposition along with myself, José Alexandre Passos, Clerk of the Court.

(Signed)

JOAO VIEIRA LUIS CAUSAUSAO DE SINAMBU.
JOAO JOSE BARBOZA.

Inclosure 7 in No. 119.

Captain Costa to Rear-Admiral Mello e Alvin.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

*On board the "Constituição" frigate,
October 23, 1855.*

I RETURN to your Excellency the despatch of his Excellency the Minister of Justice and another official paper, which treat of a fact, the particulars of which have been related by the Post-captain Leitão, and in regard to which your Excellency calls upon me for information. I ordered the commanders of the steamer "Golfinho," and schooner "St. Leopoldo," which, during the period in which it is said the reported fact took place, were cruising on the coast of Rio Grande, to report thereon; and inclosed I have the honour to lay before your Excellency the information received from those commanders.

In thus complying, I must acquaint your Excellency that I, in due time, forwarded to the head-quarters of the Marine the despatch alluded to by the commander of the "St. Leopoldo," in which the loss of a pilot-boat on the beach of Marambaia was reported, the tenour of which also agrees with the inclosed copy.

It is here proper that I should respectfully make a few observations to prove the inaccuracy of the fact in question: First, because it appears impossible that so large a number of Africans could have been landed without the knowledge of the police authorities. Secondly, because it appears equally impossible that a vessel having arrived at Ilha Grande, having landed Africans, and being scuttled, without at least some fishermen, of whom there are so many about there, having seen anything or suspected anything, and even if they had observed everything, should until then have kept the secret. Thirdly, because I can assure your Excellency that in doing justice to the officers commanding the cruisers, I am certain they have been indefatigable in complying with my orders, and these, besides being very stringent in respect to the vigilance that they are to maintain for the prevention of the Traffic in Africans, indicate, as one of the useful means, a continued good understanding with the territorial authorities.

This is all that I can inform your Excellency, whom God preserve.

On board the "Constituição" frigate, 23rd October, 1855.

(Signed)

JESUINO LAMEGO COSTA,
Post Captain, Commanding the Station.

No. 120.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1855.

I BEG to forward to your Lordship copy of an extract from the "Jornal do Commercio," refuting an article that had appeared previously in the same newspaper taken from a Lisbon journal, accusing the English engineer of the Brazilian steamer "Tocantines" of having sold a free mulatto woman and her child into slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 120.

Extract from the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 8th November, 1855.

(Translation.)

SLAVERY.—ONE of the Directors of the Brazilian Steam-packet Company addressed to us, yesterday, the following letter, in reply to an article which we transcribed from the "Jornal do Commercio" of Lisbon:—

"Mr. Editor,

"A report having been published in your estimable paper of the 7th instant, extracted from the Lisbon 'Jornal do Commercio,' of the 12th ultimo,

that two free women, natives of the Island of St. Vincent, who were brought on board the steamer 'Tocantins,' in August last, in the service of an English engineer, had been reduced to slavery, he having, immediately after his arrival, effected a sale of them; I hasten to contradict this false rumour, for which I am in possession of over abundant proofs.

"The Imperial Government has long since been informed of this rumour, and the most minute investigations having been instituted, it was ascertained that the rumour was false and utterly void of foundation. The English Minister addressed a letter to the Directors of the Brazilian Steam-packet Company upon this subject; these set on foot inquiries, until they discovered the residence of the said woman, Antonia Thereza, and her daughter, with whom they spoke respecting the rumour circulated; against which she very explicitly protested, declaring that no one had attempted to enslave her or her daughter.

"The Directors of the Company, not being perfectly satisfied, waited upon the Inspector of the Ward, who confirmed that the two women were residing in that house as free women; we are therefore enabled to announce that Antonia Thereza da Graça and her daughter are residing with a respectable family, at No. 67, Rua da Gamboa, where any person who chooses may find them, and certify to the truth of this statement."

No. 121.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 9th of November last, inclosing copies of correspondence relating to a reported landing of slaves at Angra dos Reis on the Brazilian coast, I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 122.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of November last, reporting the circumstances attending an attempt which had been made to land a cargo of Africans in the Province of Pernambuco, and I have to inform you that I entirely approve the representations which you have made to the Brazilian Government with regard to that affair; and I have to instruct you, with reference to this case and to the case reported in your despatch of the 9th November, to inform the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have heard with deep pain and disappointment of these attempts to revive the Slave Trade, by the suppression of which the Brazilian Government had earned so much glory for itself. Her Majesty's Government do not permit themselves to doubt that the same enlightened policy, and the same humane intentions, will still be carried out by the Brazilian Government; but they earnestly entreat that Government to display the utmost energy, to spare no expense, and to neglect no means, for crushing, before they obtain any further extension, the efforts that will be used to recommence the Trade, and for which Her Majesty's Government have reason to believe that extensive preparations have been made.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 123.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 9, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copies of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco* respecting the importation of African slaves which was effected in October last at the mouth of the River Serinhaem in the Province of Pernambuco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) * CLARENDON.

No. 124.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 9, 1856.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th ultimo,† I have to direct that if you should find the Brazilian Government inactive with regard to the late landing of slaves at the Serinhaem, and if it should appear that they are not disposed to discover or to punish, when detected, the persons concerned in that affair, or in any other similar acts of slave-trading; you will state to the Brazilian Government that, if they do not prosecute and punish the persons who have been engaged in these Slave Trade transactions, the British Government will be obliged again to put in force the provisions of the Act of Parliament of the year 1845, and while British cruisers will exercise on the coast, in the rivers, and in the harbours of Brazil, that watchfulness and activity which the agents and officers of the Brazilian Government neglect to use, British Courts of Justice will pronounce those decrees of condemnation from which Brazilian Courts may be found to shrink.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 125.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12, 1856.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 7, 1855.

ABOUT the middle of last month Admiral Johnstone, who was up at Pernambuco, made me acquainted, by a casual opportunity, with the information he had received from the Lords of the Admiralty of the suspicions that were attached to an American schooner, the "*Mary E. Smith*" at Boston, cleared in ballast for Monte Video, which circumstance, it appears, had been reported to Her Majesty's Government by Her Majesty's Consul at Boston, Mr. Grattan.

Admiral Johnstone wishing the Imperial Government to be informed of the probable slave-trading designs of this vessel, I forthwith addressed a note upon this subject to M. Paranhos, copy of which is herein inclosed, in order that the Brazilian cruisers may be kept upon the alert.

I also beg to forward to your Lordship M. Paranhos' answer thanking me for the intelligence, and intimating that he would immediately bring the matter to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

* No. 182.

† No. 122.

Inclosure 1 in No. 125.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, November 26, 1855.

I BEG to transmit to your Excellency, for the information of the Imperial Government, copy of a despatch which I have recently received from Admiral Johnstone, inclosing communications, likewise annexed, by which it appears that an American schooner, the "*Mary E. Smith*," cleared out about four months ago in Boston (in ballast) for Monte Video, under very suspicious circumstances, which incline to the belief that she was destined for the Slave Trade.

In case her destiny should be for these shores with an illicit cargo, this would be about the time of her arriving near the coast of Brazil from Africa, and no doubt the Imperial Government will instruct their cruizers to be upon the alert in virtue of these communications.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 125.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, November 29, 1855.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which, on the 26th instant, was addressed to me by Mr. W. Stafford Jerningham, &c., inclosing copy of a despatch from Rear-Admiral Johnstone, and the communications to which he refers, respecting an American schooner, the "*Mary E. Smith*," which in August last cleared out from Boston (in ballast) for Monte Video, the Rear-Admiral having reasons to suspect that she was destined for the Slave Trade.

In thanking Mr. Jerningham for this communication, I have the honour to state to him that, under this date, I am going to bring it to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice, in order that it may be taken into consideration.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

No. 126.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12, 1856.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 12, 1855.

BEARING in mind the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 6th of October last, in which I am commanded, after I shall have made myself acquainted with the actual law of Brazil, respecting the registration of slaves, to make to the Imperial Government a proposal of passing an enactment for a general registration of all persons in a legal state of slavery, in order that abuses may be remedied that have been signalised as prevalent in some parts, where free individuals have been unjustly reduced to a state of servitude, I now beg to forward to your Lordship copy of a note which I have addressed to his Excellency Senhor Paranhos upon this subject, making the proposal as suggested by your Lordship's despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 126.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, December 7, 1855.

IT has been represented to Her Majesty's Government, by a person competent of judging, that there exist in this country extreme facilities with which sales of free persons of colour are frequently effected, perhaps especially in Rio Grande do Sul; and although there appear to be in the Criminal Code of Brazil certain penal enactments against persons who shall reduce freedmen to a state of bondage, yet there would seem to arise an obvious difficulty in applying these pains to delinquents, in consequence of the faulty and imperfect mode in which the registration of slaves is carried on in most of the rural districts of Brazil. In the towns there are certain regulations which enable the authorities to verify the fact of certain slaves being the lawful property of certain masters; but I am informed in the country, and above all in the secluded parts of this immense Empire, the process of registration is not put in practice at all. I am, therefore, instructed by Her Majesty's Government to submit to the Imperial Government, for the furtherance of the humane policy which, to their great honour, they are now pursuing, the proposal that a law should be passed providing for the registration of all slaves throughout the Empire of Brazil, imposing severe punishments on all persons unduly registering as slaves those who are not legally recognized as such; and rendering the settlers and purchasers of persons not previously registered as slaves, amenable to the pains and penalties imposed on persons acting in contravention of the existing laws against the Slave Trade.

I am convinced the Imperial Government will admit the reasonableness and the humane object of such an enactment, and which, at the same time that it will protect the freedom of the poor emancipated man of colour, would give the Government authorities the power of recognizing who are legally slaves and who are not, as well as of facilitating the means of bringing to punishment those unfeeling persons who may have unjustly trampled upon the hard-earned liberty of the manumitted negro or mulatto.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. S. JERNINGHAM.

No. 127.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 12, 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 17th October, forwarding to me copy of correspondence respecting the proceedings of Her Majesty's Consul at Pará, with regard to the 3 young slaves of Mr. Dickson, as well as your Lordship's answer to Mr. Vines, disapproving the whole transaction.

I have made inquiries, and there is no law in Brazil preventing slaves from being emancipated in their minority. A child, directly it is born, may be legally manumitted; and I need only point out to your Lordship a similar case in the children, slaves of the late John Craven, whose titles to immediate freedom the Courts of Justice duly acknowledged, although in their minority, and under the jurisdiction of the Judge of Orphans. Therefore, Mr. Dickson, if he had wished to free the slaves he intended to sell to Mr. Vines, could have done so without obstruction, especially as Dr. Moraes, then supplying the President's place, acknowledged that in Mr. Dickson's case, he being co-heir with his children on his wife's decease, the Brazilian law awarded the slaves to the parent as personal property, and the land to the children, as the real estate.

In order to avoid any such objectionable transaction in future, it would be exceedingly useful in this Empire, where we are continually fighting the battle in slave matters, to issue a circular reprobating and forbidding the transfer or purchase of slaves by Her Majesty's Agents, under any consideration whatsoever.

No. 128.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12, 1856.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 14, 1855.

I BEG now to forward to your Lordship copy of a note from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, replying to the one I addressed to his Excellency on the 13th of November last, touching the disembarkation of Africans at Serinhaem, of which your Lordship was informed in my despatch of the same date.

As his Excellency endeavours to disculpate the Brazilian authorities in this affair, and seeks to establish that there could not be any just ground for remonstrance against the authorities of the Province of Pernambuco for inertness and negligence at the time of the arrival of the illicit cargo, and previous to the capture of the 162 Africans by Colonel Menezes Drummond and the military functionary, I have thought it right to make a rejoinder to his Excellency's note, and now have the honour to inclose a copy to your Lordship.

This Government, who appeared at first to be somewhat undecided respecting the measures to be adopted, I am glad to say, have now entered seriously into the investigation of the Serinhaem business; and his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs told me yesterday that the judicial authorities at Pernambuco were actively prosecuting their researches, and had made fresh discoveries implicating persons of importance in that quarter. He likewise added, he had found out who the captain was, and had instituted an action against him and the crew, who, as yet, I believe, have not been apprehended.

Mr. Cowper has lately informed me that 9 of the missing Africans, said to have been stolen, have been arrested, and that it was given out in Pernambuco that they were found wandering about the forest, which he hardly credited, as they were suffering from their newly branded breasts, where the letter "B" was deeply burnt upon some of them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 128.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 4, 1855.

I HAD the honour to receive the note which Mr. W. Stafford Jerningham, &c., addressed to me under the date of the 13th of the last month, relative to the seizure of Africans recently effected in the Province of Pernambuco.

I received this note of Mr. Jerningham on the afternoon of the 20th, when it was delivered at the Foreign Office, and I think it proper to mention this circumstance in order that it may not appear that the steps taken by the Imperial Government respecting that fact were not taken spontaneously, they having verily resolved upon and taken them without any other suggestion excepting the conscientiousness of their own duties and interests.

Mr. Jerningham in his above-mentioned note, says the following:—

(*Vide* copy of said note of the 13th of November, forwarded in despatch of the same date to the Earl of Clarendon.)

Before replying to the contents of Mr. Jerningham's note, it is proper that I should state all the known circumstances of the fact in question. By this means Mr. Jerningham's observations may be better understood, and my answer become clearer and more precise.

On the 5th of July last, news of a vague description, and unaccompanied by any indications which might render the rumour credible, reached the President of Pernambuco, that, in the District of Rio Formoso, to which the hamlet of Serinhaem belongs, a rumour was current of a disembarkation of Africans.

Notwithstanding the vague and uncertain nature of that intelligence, the

President of the Province did not disregard it, and immediately ordered the Chief of the Police, and the Commander of the Naval Station, to direct their especial attention to that point.

From the 5th of July to the 11th of October, that is, during the space of three months, no sign appeared which could confirm that rumour. The vigilance of the first authority in the province, of the local authorities, and of the cruisers, had been unable to make any discovery.

I also believe that the Commander of the English war steamer "Rifleman," who cruised at different times on the south coast of Pernambuco from the 5th to the 13th of the said month, met with nothing that might induce him to suspect that a disembarkation would shortly take place.

It was under these circumstances, when the slight apprehensions which so uncertain a rumour could have excited had totally subsided, that, on the 11th of October, a pilot-boat was seen at anchor close to the Island of Santo Aleixo in the waters of Serinhaem. The belief of the population was such, that no person of that place suspected that vessel, it having been generally supposed that she had gone there in consequence of the quarantine established in the port of the capital.

This illusion was dissipated on the 12th, when one of those crafts which are engaged in the small coasting trade having steered towards the island, the pilot-boat weighed anchor and precipitately entered the bar of Serinhaem, doubtless supposing that that craft was a vessel of war.

The Delegate of Police of that district, Colonel Gaspar de Menezes Vasconcellos Drummond, who resides at a distance of one league and a-half from that place, and who, therefore, was the nearest authority, was the first who received the news of what had happened, and, as in duty bound, he urgently took such measures as were within his reach. He sent orders to the commandant of the detachment of the municipality, which was at a distance of five leagues, to come with the greatest haste, and, meanwhile, he caused the pilot-boat to be watched by the Inspector of the Ward and some armed citizens.

The said Commandant having marched with the most praiseworthy promptitude, arrived in the port of Serinhaem during the silence of the break of day of the 13th, having only received the order of the Delegate on the preceding midnight. As soon as he arrived, he effected the seizure of the pilot-boat, and of 162 Africans who were on board. The slave vessel's crew had disappeared.

Upon being informed of what had occurred at Serinhaem, the President of the Province immediately ordered the brig of war "Itamaricá," under the command of the chief of the naval station, to go to sea and convey the whole of the prize as soon as possible to the capital, and to furnish all the assistance on his part to the local authorities.

The police authorities of that district not having been able, with the cooperation of the Commander of the Naval Station, to effect the capture of the crew of the slaver, and it being necessary that new measures should be adopted for that purpose, and for the complete investigation of the fact, the President of the Province ordered the Chief of the Police to proceed to that district, and to perform that double commission. The Chief of the Police immediately departed, and as soon as he arrived in that district he commenced taking steps, the result whereof is not yet known.

This is the circumstantial history of the contraband and of its seizure, according to the last official communications from the President of the Province.

No negligence is therein to be seen on the part of the authorities, whilst it presents an important fact, which speaks very highly to the credit of the country, and will serve as a warning to the criminal slave-traders.

I had hoped that Mr. Jerningham would have viewed in the same manner this new attempt of the slave-traders in Pernambuco, whatever may have been the incidents and circumstances, of a secondary nature, of that fact. Mr. Jerningham, therefore, will conceive the degree of surprise with which I read in his note that nothing satisfactory appears to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in the seizure made in Serinhaem, which only presents a strange and mysterious character, causing apprehensions of the revival of the Slave Trade, and, consequently, threatening the perturbation of the good relations between both countries.

This apprehension, which Mr. Jerningham hastened to manifest to the Imperial Government, has no foundation upon anything which is officially known, and neither does Mr. Jerningham's note authorise it, as I am going to show in analysing it.

"It is said that subaltern authorities showed negligence in being absent from their districts."

This accusation, if not altogether unjust, is certainly much exaggerated. It originated, according to my belief, in a Pernambuco newspaper which is adverse to the President of the Province, and perhaps some persons who might have thought thus to revenge themselves on him for the frustration of their criminal speculations have also concurred towards giving importance to and spreading it.

The very fact of the seizure effected upon a depopulated coast, and when nobody believed in the talked-of attempt at a disembarkation of Africans, demonstrates *à priori* that no such abandonment and negligence existed on the part of the authorities of Serinhaem. The examination of the circumstances in which the municipality was, in fact, as regards the administration of justice and of the police, confirms plainly, at first sight, that they were such as they should have been.

There existed in that part of the Province the Head Judge of the District, the Municipal Judge, the effective Delegate of the Police, the Commandant of the Police Detachment, not to speak of other subaltern agents. Surely a place so circumstanced is not, as has been reported, without a head.

It may be observed that the effective Municipal Judge was absent on leave, and that the first Supplemental Delegate of Police, who performed the functions of that office during the illness of Colonel Drummond, had also absented himself a few days previous to the appearance of the slave-vessel. This, however, does not prove that those posts had been abandoned, because the respective supplemental authorities were on the spot and exercising their functions.

The two functionaries to whom I above allude remained at their posts upwards of three months. They only absented themselves after the suspicion had vanished of an attempt being meditated of a disembarkation at that place. And even if this notorious circumstance were not to militate in their favour, their absence could not be attributed to any unbecoming motive, because they are persons generally esteemed for their probity and zeal. With respect to one of them, there is, besides, the consideration that the posts of Delegate and Sub-Delegate of Police, which are numerous in every province, are all serving gratis, the only recompense of the citizens who exercised them being the acknowledgments of the Government and of the country.

It is further said, Mr. Jerningham adds, that some Africans were put out of the way of the legal seizure, and Her Britannic Majesty's Consul confirms this rumour, giving information that a certain individual possessed himself of 76 of the said Africans.

This rumour appears to have some foundation in the circumstances of the locality and of the fact. It is probable that such may have happened, and this cannot be wondered at.

The Imperial Government neither require nor choose to deny anything that may be true in those vague accusations. Quite on the contrary, they wish, and without delay ordered, the most rigorous investigations to be instituted, thus approving of the disposition in which their Delegate in Pernambuco was.

The imprisonment of the Portuguese subject Antonio Severino d'Avellar, to whom Mr. Jerningham refers in his note—an imprisonment which was effected in the capital of the Province of Rio de Janeiro on the 15th of last month—and the immediate transmission of that individual to Pernambuco as being suspected of being concerned in the contraband at Serinhaem, is an unequivocal proof of the rigour with which the Imperial Government wish to proceed in this respect.

It is true that the crew of the slaver succeeded in escaping. No news, however, either official or private, has yet come to the knowledge of the Imperial Government of the fact to which Mr. Jerningham alludes, that the captain and crew of the pilot-boat were, before they effected their escape, conducted before an authority of the place.

The flight of the captain and sailors of the pilot-boat may have been the fault of some person, and if such should be the case, the Imperial Government are firmly resolved to punish that fault, as well as any other that may be disco-

vered and proved, without regard to the qualities of the delinquents, all of whom are equal in the eye of the laws of the Empire.

I cannot withal but note that Mr. Jerningham, without other proofs than rumours spread by unknown or partial persons against the accused authorities, should attribute to those authorities facts which could not appear extraordinary taking into consideration the circumstances of the case.

It is known that the pilot-boat remained, without being suspected by any one, from the 11th to the 12th, when she discovered the craft which was steering towards the Island of Santo Aleixo; and it is further known that the arrival of the police force and the seizure took place on the 13th before daybreak. Was it, perchance, impossible that the captain and the four or six sailors, of whom the crew of that vessel was composed, could have escaped without the negligence or protection of the local authorities having concurred therein?

It appears to Mr. Jerningham worthy of remark that the inquiries which are to be instituted in Pernambuco should not have been concluded in time, so as the result might already be known in this capital. The Imperial Government are not of the same opinion as Mr. Jerningham, because they are aware of the time, as well as the difficulties, which, in order that they may be efficacious, and not endanger public safety, require them to be conducted with secrecy and prudence, not only on the spot where the crime was committed; but also in the capital, and upon other points of the province.

The papers on board the vessel, if it is true that they were found, as Mr. Jerningham has been informed, ought to remain in Pernambuco, for the instruction and documenting of the regular process, which belongs to the criminal jurisdiction of the province, and should not be sent to this capital.

The Imperial Government would have been very glad, and much obliged to Mr. Jerningham, if he could inform them who the person is to whom he alludes, of important connections in the north of Brazil, who is said to be implicated in the contraband at Serinhaem. If any person should be so circumstanced, I assure Mr. Jerningham that that person, be he who he may, is not superior to the laws, nor to the firm decision of the Imperial Government severely to chastise those who may attempt the revival of the Trade in Africans in Brazil.

Let not Mr. Jerningham be apprehensive that the laws, the authorities, and public opinion, which brought about the extinction amongst us of that cruel and noxious Trade, be either weak, or impotent to repress this or any other attempt which may be made by the adventuring slave-traders, or which they may still be capable of undertaking. The Imperial Government have the best-founded confidence in the impossibility of the revival of that Traffic in Brazil, and no one, as I have already observed to Mr. Jerningham, is more interested than the Imperial Government in keeping watch to prevent it.

Let Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, therefore, be tranquil, and dismiss the unjust suspicions evinced by its words and its acts. These suspicions, if they do not tend to disturb the good relations which happily subsist between the two countries, at least tend to prevent their being drawn still closer, and being more developed, as it were so much to be wished.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 128.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, December 13, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which your Excellency has forwarded to me under the date of the 4th of December, in answer to mine of the 13th ultimo, respecting the disembarkation of Africans at Serinhaem.

Your Excellency commences by stating, that my note of the 13th only reached the Brazilian Foreign Office on the 20th; as this was in consequence of an oversight, I must therefore beg to make my excuses, although I can assure your Excellency that it has not unfrequently happened, that your Excellency's

notes have only been received by Her Majesty's Legation many days after date.

However, your Excellency has profited by this mistake, to show that it was not in consequence of any note from Her Majesty's Legation that the Imperial Government had taken some decisive steps in proceeding against those likely to be implicated in the Serinhaem affair, and that these proceedings were spontaneously resolved upon without any other suggestion excepting that of the conscientiousness of the Imperial Government's duties and interests.

This I am delighted to hear, and beg to congratulate your Excellency upon such praiseworthy motives, but as it has been represented to me (and it certainly wore the appearance of such) that no decision was come to respecting the arrest of Mr. Avellar prior to the 13th, the time when I addressed my note to your Excellency, and as a considerable time had elapsed since the disembarkation of Africans at Serinhaem, and so little seemed to be officially known about this whole business, it was consequently my duty no longer to remain silent; and with the view of urging on the Imperial Government in the good cause, I considered it not out of place to make some inquiries and point out some cases of apparent negligence which had been signalized, not only in public journals, but which I had received officially from Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco. Putting aside other sources of information which your Excellency as a statesman must know are often the best, and not therefore to be despised, I do not see why I am not also to be permitted to give credit to the intelligence given by Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco, a person of probity and zeal, and I believe also a gentleman of honour, and one whom I should think incapable of unjustly accusing people of negligence unless he saw some cause for so doing.

What I then beg here to state is, that in all the public despatches which I have received from Mr. Cowper, he has shown that there was evident negligence on the part of some of the authorities of the Province of Pernambuco in the Serinhaem affair, designedly we will not imagine; but to any one conversant with the facts, as even stated by your Excellency, in defence of these authorities, it is impossible not to see that the vigilance of these supplemental authorities acting for those who were ill or on leave, was not in proportion to the warnings which had been given since the 5th of July, or commensurate with the well-founded information that the pilot-boats were preparing in the River Zaire for the coast of Brazil. If Serinhaem had been spoken of since the 5th of July as a probable place of an attempt being made, it certainly ought to have been watched until some intelligence had arrived as to what had become of the pilot-boats in the River Zaire; if such had been the case, and the authorities had been on the *qui vive*, those 60 or 70 unfortunate victims who appear to have been stolen, as is reported by an individual bearing the name of Chico Caçador, would not at this moment find themselves condemned to slavery.

This capture, then, instead of, as now, being an imperfect affair and open to much criticism, would have been an event which would have entirely entitled the Pernambuco authorities and the Imperial Government to the highest commendation.

Although your Excellency, with your usual ability, has made the conduct of the Brazilian authorities you defend, appear in a very amiable light, I must say, however willing I am to be convinced, that I cannot perceive why some one or other of those police employés, or other authorities said to be on the spot, did not feel their curiosity prompt them upon the apparition of a strange pilot-boat off the Island of St. Aleixo, and especially after she precipitately entered the Bay of Serinhaem, frightened by a coasting vessel which she mistook for a vessel of war, to make some inquiries directly about her, and even visit this craft, that, for all they knew, might have been engaged in smuggling.

Such, indeed, would appear to be the duty of watchful authorities anywhere, and it seems evident that it ought to have been especially that of those of Serinhaem.

As for the excuse respecting the cholera which was suspected to have existed on board this pilot-boat, that only appears to me another reason why the authorities should have proceeded forthwith to hail and visit her, and to have ascertained if such was the case or not.

Two whole days and two nights did this slave-craft with her human cargo repose within Brazilian waters, and near to land, without being interfered with;

therefore it is not astonishing that neither the captain nor the crew (though reported at first to have been taken and then let go), or some of the stolen slaves, are not forthcoming.

Far from wishing to embarrass the Imperial Government in complaining of their authorities, I should not have made so many remarks, but the negligence manifested at Serinhaem was so palpable that it was impossible for me to remain quiescent.

I am rejoiced to find that the Imperial Government have now entered in earnest upon the investigation of this affair, and it is to be hoped that they will prosecute it with such alacrity that they may soon discover all the particulars of this audacious slave-plot, which may possibly have still other ramifications.

Your Excellency's intimation that the Imperial Government would severely chastise all persons, whatever their rank might be, who should endeavour or dare to revive the cruel and noxious Slave Traffic, has given unequivocal satisfaction to Her Majesty's Legation, and will, no doubt, afford still greater pleasure to Her Majesty's Government; and as firmness and justice on the part of the Imperial Government will strike a panic amongst the slave-dealers, at the same time that they will entitle the Imperial Government to the congratulations of the civilised world, so that want of confidence of which your Excellency complains on the part of Her Majesty's Legation will be entirely dissipated, when it shall be thoroughly demonstrated that this justice and firmness shall not find themselves exposed to be endangered or impaired by any supineness of the Brazilian subaltern authorities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 129.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12, 1856.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 14, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a note I have written to Senhor Paranhos, inclosing an extract of a letter which had been addressed to Her Majesty's Legation by the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Plumper," at sea, off the coast of Africa, stating that on the 19th of last October he had captured a small cutter, with 90 slaves, all boys, on board, destined for the Island of St. Thomas, where it was presumed they were to be shipped on board another vessel, for the shores of Brazil.

As the pilot-boat which was captured in October at Serinhaem contained slaves, mostly boys, and as she is one of the two which it was known beforehand was to proceed from the River Zaire to Brazil, it struck me that the 90 Africans taken by the "Plumper" may be part of the cargo destined for the second pilot-boat that was announced as likely to appear off this coast in November, but which, as yet, as far as I can learn, has not arrived.

However, other people are of a different opinion respecting these 90 captured blacks.

I also beg to inclose to your Lordship copy of Senhor Paranhos' answer, thanking me for the information, and stating that he would bring it to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 129.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, December 6, 1855.

I BEG to have the honour to forward to your Excellency, for the information of the Imperial Government, extract of a communication which has lately reached this Legation from the Commander of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Plumper," off the coast of Africa, by which your Excellency will perceive that

90 slaves, all boys, were captured in a small cutter, bound for St. Thomas, where, it was presumed, they were intended to be transhipped in another vessel for Brazil.

As this capture took place on the 19th of October last, it is possible that these Africans may be part of the second cargo that was said to be destined for those shores about the middle or up to the end of November, and which it was previously known was being prepared in the River Zaire.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 129.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 11, 1855.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which on the 6th instant was addressed to me by Mr. W. Stafford Jerningham, &c., inclosing the extract from a communication received by the Legation of which he is in charge, from the Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-sloop "Plumper," on the coast of Africa, whereby it appears that 90 slaves, all boys, were captured on board a small cutter, destined for St. Thomas, where, it is presumed, they would be shipped on board another vessel, for Brazil.

Mr. Jerningham concludes with the observation that, as that capture took place on the 19th of last October, it appears probable that the said Africans might be part of a cargo which is said to be destined for these shores about the middle of November, and which was previously known to have been preparing in the River Zaire.

I thank Mr. Jerningham for this communication, and I have the honour to state to him that I shall bring the same to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice.

I renew, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

No. 130.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 14, 1855.

ADMIRAL JOHNSTONE, who has been, and is still, on a cruise, informed me last month that the Lords of the Admiralty had made him acquainted with the suspicions that were attached to a North American vessel, named "*Mary E. Smith*," which had cleared out from Boston in August, in ballast, for Monte Video, inclining to the belief that she was destined for a slave adventure to Brazil.

Upon receiving this information I immediately communicated it to the Imperial Government, in order that they might put their cruisers on the watch; and I also thought it right, by the Admiral's suggestion, to apprise the American Minister, Mr. Trousdale, of the fears that were entertained with regard to the sinister intentions of the "*Mary E. Smith*."

The Brazilian Government were thankful for this communication, and two days ago Senhor Paranhos placed the inclosed paper in my hand, by which your Lordship will see that it is known here, from a correspondence seized by the police, that this schooner "*Mary E. Smith*" went, in fact, from Boston to the coast of Africa, by order of Manoel Bazilio da Cunha Reis, who is a third-part owner, and is also interested in the cargo of Africans, that this schooner is expected here some time in this month, and that on board her a person named João José Vianna, is coming as a passenger, he being also a third-part proprietor.

This vessel was consigned by Cunha Reis to Guilherme da Silva Correa, who resides on the coast of Africa.

The letters seized by the police likewise indicate that the correspondence of the consignees in Rio, with the parties connected in this transaction, was to

pass through London, directed to the firm of Figaniere and Irmãos, New York, and Spencer and Buddens, London.

His Excellency Senhor Paranhos, with whom I have had some conversation upon this matter, has declared that the Imperial Government are determined to put down these new attempts of reviving the Brazilian Slave Trade; and I must say that both his Excellency and Senhor Nabuco are now acting with energy and frankness.

The Brazilian cruizers are to be placed upon the likely points; and if this American schooner comes hither, she will find it very difficult to land her cargo, for Her Majesty's squadron is likewise aware of her probable advent, and Admiral Johnstone at Bahia, and the senior naval officer at Rio, will, no doubt, take proper measures, as far as their orders permit them, to frustrate any piratical slave attempt upon the coast of Brazil.

Although the want of labour appears to render this period a propitious time for the adventurous in slaving, yet I think that this Government, if they continue firm and active, may crush these first attempts; but if an effective plan of colonization be not soon carried out, it is impossible to foresee what may happen.

Inclosure in No. 130.

Memorandum relative to the American schooner "Mary E. Smith."

RELATIVE to the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," cleared out at Boston for Monte Video, and suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade, the Imperial Government knows, from letters and papers apprehended by the police—

That the said schooner did in fact sail from Boston to the coast of Africa by order of Manoel Bazilio da Cunha Reis, who is owner of one-third of the vessel, and is interested in the cargo of Africans.

That the schooner is to arrive in this Empire in the present month of December.

That João José Vianna, who is also owner of one-third of the vessel, is coming in her.

That the vessel was consigned by Cunha Reis to Guilherme da Silva Correa, who resides on the coast of Africa, where he has for a length of time been engaged in Slave Trade, and is owner of the remaining third part of the schooner.

From the letters seized it appears that the correspondence of the consignees of the said Cunha Reis, of this city, is to be addressed, through London, to the firm of Figaniere e Irmãos, in New York, care of Spencer and Buddens, London.

No. 131.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 17, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 7th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Government, acquainting them with the suspicions entertained with regard to the slave-trading designs of the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 132.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 17, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that I approve the note which you addressed to Senhor Paranhos upon the subject of the registration of slaves in Brazil, a copy of which is inclosed in your despatch of the 12th ultimo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 133.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 17, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th ultimo,* inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between you and the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting the landing of Africans which was effected at Serinhaem in October last, and stating that the Brazilian Government have now entered seriously into the investigation of that affair.

It would appear, however, by a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco, dated the 19th ultimo, that the prosecution of the parties concerned in the landing in question is by no means carried on with vigour; and I have, therefore, to instruct you to impress upon the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the very serious nature of this case, in which the local authorities seem to be gravely implicated, and you will call upon the Brazilian Government to use every effort to prevent the revival of the Slave Trade, for which it is evident that preparations are making.

No. 134.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having communicated to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the information which you had received, stating that Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Plumper" had captured near the coast of Africa on the 19th of October last a small cutter, with 90 slaves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 135.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th ultimo,† respecting the suspicious American vessel named "Mary E. Smith," which cleared out from Boston for Monte Video in August last, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps which you took on receiving information with regard to this vessel.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 136.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 19, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a circular despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil,* in consequence of the proceedings of Mr. Vines with regard to the 3 young slaves belonging to Mr. Dickson, and in conformity with the suggestions contained in your despatch of the 14th ultimo.†

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 137.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1856.

HER Majesty's Consul at Pará having recently informed me that 2 freed negroes, Laudelino and Honorio, had arrived in that city from Rio de Janeiro for the purpose of being employed in the Government arsenal, and that their condition in that establishment was worse than that of slaves in general in that town, where many of them, after paying their masters so much per diem, were able to make something for themselves, whereas the Government emancipados could never earn more than 320 reis, and were watched and guarded as if they were convicted criminals; I thought it right, in consequence of Mr. Vines' communication, to represent the matter to the Brazilian Government in the note addressed to Senhor Paranhos, copy of which is herein inclosed, and in which I have urged his Excellency to move an inquiry into the hard case of these individuals, and to induce the Brazilian Government to grant them their certificates of freedom.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 137.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 2, 1856.

I BEG to draw your Excellency's attention to the inclosed extract from a despatch which has reached me from Mr. Vines, Her Majesty's Consul in Pará, who represents the hard case of two freed negroes, Laudelino and Honorio, who appear to have been sent to Pará from hence in the steamer "Paraná," at the request of the President of that province for workmen, and that they are now working in the arsenal there, guarded and treated with suspicion, as if convicted criminals, and receiving only 320 reis per diem and a miserable ration of farinha.

It appears from Mr. Vines' statement that the position of these emancipados is worse than that of slaves in the same city, who appear by their activity and industry to be able, after paying their masters, to gain something for themselves; whereas, these freed Africans, Honorio and Laudelino, whose time I suppose is quite at the disposition of the Government arsenal, can never make more than the miserable pittance of 320 reis.

Your Excellency is well aware that none of these men ought to be in bondage who have been emancipated, and I trust the Imperial Government will inquire into the hard case of these two individuals, and grant them their certificates of freedom.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, January 12, 1856.

THE "Jornal do Commercio" of this city, which a few years ago allowed itself to be betrayed into frequent virulent attacks upon the eminently successful efforts of Her Majesty's Representative at that time, the present Sir James Hudson, who, as your Lordship well knows more than any one, backed by Her Majesty's cruisers, contributed to the downfall of the African Slave Trade in this country, has lately shown symptoms of a more humane disposition; and I beg now to inclose to your Lordship a translation of an extract from its columns, which seems to be a *bonâ fide* revelation of the actual schemes and plots of certain slave-dealers; and points out one particular project which is said to have been devised by an association in New York, with ramifications in the West Indies, Brazil, and the Coast of Africa, for smuggling into this country Bozal for Ladino Negroes, by causing them to be instructed in the Portuguese language in the different slave-trading parts of the African Coast, and after dressing them up in Minas cotton, such as is worn by actual Brazilian slaves, to endeavour to effect their clandestine introduction into this Empire.

This intelligence bears the impression of more respectability than what generally proceeds from the ordinary run of informers, and it is well worthy of a perusal.

It appears that the Fazenda of Lagoinha, where the informant declares there exists a cavern for concealing the unfortunate captives in case of an alarm after disembarkation, belongs to a Senhor Bernardino Faria, who but six weeks ago was arrested at his villa at Nitheroy, in the vicinity of Rio de Janeiro, on suspicion of some Slave Trade affair. He has, however, been released; and, probably being anxious to protect his character, has inserted a letter, copy of which is herein inclosed, in the same newspaper, inviting the police to go and examine his property, in order to establish the existence, or not, of the cavern in question, as well as to make other investigations. I trust this challenge will be responded to, as the writer of the article in the "Commercio" says he can point out the spot where the cave is to be found, which has hitherto been a secret.

The publication of the above Slave Trade denunciation in the "Commercio" has produced an echo upon the subject of other slave-dealing designs in the "Diario" of Rio (an Opposition periodical); of this article I beg also to inclose to your Lordship an extract, in translation.

The aim of the writer, who is evidently a friend and admirer of the Government, endeavours to show that the Brazilian Executive have constantly been upon their guard, and that it has been chiefly owing to their exceeding circumspection that the traffickers' plans have been continually thwarted, and even that a recent attempt at landing slaves off Itapoama, where a suspicious schooner, with two signals hoisted, tarried for two days, was counteracted by the vigilance and activity of the Government employés.

That this Government is trying to do their best, I hope and trust is the case; but the member of the Ministry who is reported to be one of the most animated against the Slave Trade, is the present Minister of Justice, Senhor Nabuco; and of late, since the business at Serinhaem, this Minister appears to have redoubled his efforts, by prosecutions and extra vigilance, in combating the enemies of Brazilian civilization.

I am glad to hear that the Senhores Breves, who are perhaps the largest slave-owners in Brazil, are turning their attention to colonization; and Senhor Joaquim Breves, the elder brother, and proprietor of large estates, and of the Island of Marambaia, famous in the annals of Slave Trade, has established Portuguese colonists in parts of his property. The plan he adopts is a very good one. He causes a plantation to be arranged by some of his many Blacks for the reception of the colonists, who, when they arrive, find all ready for them, and have nothing to do the first year but to collect the produce. By this means he will gradually get on all his cultivated grounds a white population, and have his slaves in reserve for extending the limits of his property, and for felling and burning the virgin forests, which localities, immediately after being prepared, offer the best and richest soil for coffee and milho plantations.

Were companies formed of such influential and rich men as the Senhors Breves, Brazil would soon be colonized with a white population, with nearly the same success and rapidity that it has been, unfortunately, in bygone times by the African negro.

Inclosure 1 in No. 138.

Extract from the "Jornal do Commercio" of January 9, 1856.

(Translation.)

THE SLAVE TRADE.—IT was known some days ago that the Government had been apprised of an intended attempt to effect a disembarkation of Africans to the southward of our port; and it was said that the Government, having immediately ordered the most minute investigations to be instituted, arrived at the conclusion, from the information furnished, that that previously received was groundless.

We do not know whether this was, in fact, the conclusion at which the Government arrived or not, as we do not know whether a project really existed of disembarking Africans, upon some day of the last month, upon one point of the Province of Rio de Janeiro, or whether any one of the many incidents to which long voyages, which depend upon complicated combinations, are exposed, occasioned the miscarriage of that project.

What appears to us, however, is, that from the non-appearance of the vessel reported to have been expected, from the incessant vigilance of the Government, and even from the rigour with which all those persons are treated to whom suspicion is attached of being slave-traders, we cannot conclude that solitary attempts of some one or other audacious African speculator may not re-appear.

Even just now we have received information which confirms us in this opinion. If it had reached us from a suspicious quarter, or even from a person unworthy of our entire confidence, we should not attach any importance to it. It reveals such a degree of audacity, such contempt of the laws of the country and of the action of the authorities, that we should have held the conception of such a project as improbable. This information, however, has been furnished to us by so circumspect a person, that we should be wanting in our duty if we were to withhold it from the knowledge of the Government, who may thereby be enabled to investigate the facts, and obtain knowledge of the truth.

We are told that, during the early part of last year, an individual was in Ubatuba, trying to seduce divers planters of that neighbourhood and of the highlands to enter into a speculation of Slave Trade with him.

That individual stated to them that a great association was organised in New York, with ramifications in Brazil, the West Indies, and Coast of Africa; that that association had sent to establish schools for teaching the Portuguese language at some points of Africa where the Slave Trade was still being carried on; that the negroes, as soon as purchased, would frequent those schools, and that as soon as they had acquired as great a knowledge of our language as our "Ladino" negroes have, they would be shipped for Brazil, and would arrive here dressed in Minas cotton cloth, in imitation of the costume of our slaves.

The informant added, that in spite of all the vigilance of the Imperial Government, the mountain between St. Sebastião and Ubatuba was prepared, and a path made (through the forest) at one of its extremities, for the easy and undiscoverable transit of the negroes; that as to the disembarkation, that would be effected by means of skilful and experienced officers, who, nine times in ten, knew how to elude the vigilance of the cruisers; that if by chance, after the landing of the negroes, or before they could be sent into the interior, a force should appear for the purpose of capturing them, they could be hidden in a vast cavern, which exists in the Lagoinha plantation, only known to one person, to whom the deceased owner of that estate revealed the secret; and finally, that in the event of the plantation on the Highlands being searched which has received Africans, no one could distinguish them from the other slaves.

Things were in this state, when in August last many of the individuals who

were invited to participate in this criminal speculation received circulars, in which they were informed that the first of the vessels destined for this Slave Trade would arrive at Lagoinha in December last.

However unlikely this story may appear to be, it cannot be denied that, if the momentary success of so adventurous an undertaking is not probable, it certainly is not impossible.

We repeat, that all this information has been furnished to us by a person most worthy of credit. The Government, in sending to examine whether the path has been cleared through the forest on the mountain pointed out; whether the cave alluded to in the plantations of Lagoinha exists (our informant points out the spot where that hiding-place is); and in ordering that some of the persons in Ubatuba who were invited to join in the speculation be interrogated, may acquire luminous knowledge, which will enable them to come at the truth.

Our duty is fulfilled.

Inclosure 2 in No. 138.

Letter published in the "Jornal do Commercio" of January 10, 1856.

(Translation.)

THE SLAVE TRADE.

To the Editors of the "Jornal do Commercio."

SIRS—In your "Jornal" of this date, and under the head "Slave Trade," an article appeared, in which you pretend to have been informed by a creditable person, and apprise the Government, that during the first months of last year an individual attempted, in the town of Ubatuba, to seduce some planters of that place and of the highlands to enter into a Slave Trade speculation, and that, in order to encourage them, amongst other contrivances and artifices for eluding the vigilance of the Imperial Government, said individual counted upon a vast cavern, which he said existed on the Lagoinha plantation (of which I am the proprietor, having bought it of the heirs of João Alves da Silva Porto), and as, from this circumstance and the recent antecedents of my imprisonment for being suspected of being engaged in slave-trading, some one might raise fresh suspicions against me, although my release from prison was decreed after serious investigations, which convinced the Government of my innocence, as you yourselves have published, I now hereby beg you to state the name of the occult informer who imposed upon your good faith and well-known judgment, in inventing that romance of the cavern at Lagoinha, in order that I may bring an action against him, and have an explanation of the mistake published; and if any other person except myself should have been indicated to you as the author of said attempt, I expect from your courtesy and sense of justice that you will make that statement, in order that it may serve to justify me, independently of the proceedings of the tribunals.

(Signed) BERNARDINO MARTINHO FERREIRA DE FARIA.

Rio de Janeiro, January 9, 1856.

[Mr. Bernardo Martins Ferreira de Faria asks us to reveal the name of the person who furnished us with the information which we published yesterday relative to an attempted disembarkation of Africans, or to state whether it is some other person, and not himself, who is indicated as the author of that attempt.

To the first request we have no answer to give; as to the second, we can tell him that our informant did not mention any person's name.—*Note of the Editors.*]

Inclosure 3 in No. 138.

Extract from the "Diario do Rio de Janeiro" of January 11, 1856.

(Translation.)

THE SLAVE TRADE.—THE "Jornal do Commercio," of the 9th instant, publishes an article on the subject of Slave Trade, in which we with pleasure see ideas reproduced which we have at times emitted in this paper upon this important question.

There is, however, one point upon which we entirely differ from our colleague; and it is that in which he appears to suppose that the Government is not aware of what has been done in this country, and especially in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, for the purpose of facilitating the disembarkation of Africans.

Upon this point it behoves us to do justice to the Government, and especially to his Excellency Senhor Nabuco, who, assisted by the press and by some persons, has been able to follow step by step the whole of the plots framed by some adventurers with a view to the reestablishment of the Slave Trade.

And we cannot, in doing so, be viewed with suspicion, because we are always the first frankly to express our opinion when we think that the Government, or any one public functionary, do not proceed as they ought to do.

Besides which, there are the facts to demonstrate what we affirm. Before the "Jornal do Commercio" gave information to the Government, they already knew that a path had been cut from the plantations of Tabatinga and Lagoinha to the desert of Poço Verde, and had taken measures accordingly.

The Government further knew other facts of which the "Jornal do Commercio" is perhaps unaware; as, for example, that in the estate of the Friars opposite to the Monte do Trigo, another road has long since been opened leading to Jacarchy, coasting the River Una at a great distance.

As soon as the first project came to the knowledge of the Government, they took all those measures which were counselled by circumstances, and employed the greatest zeal and activity in order to defeat any future attempt.

It was owing to their efforts that the schooner destined to effect this disembarkation, having left this for Monte Video in order to fit out in that port, never could accomplish her object of taking on board the necessary equipment.

After the miscarriage of that project, the Government did not diminish their vigilance, and having this object constantly in view, they endeavoured by all possible means to discover the slightest attempt that might be made with the intent of re-establishing the Slave Trade.

The whole of the correspondence, written in Lisbon by a well-known slave-trader, in which is developed a plan for the disembarkation of slaves, has long since been in the hands of the Government; and it is partly owing to the knowledge thereby obtained, that the accounts subsequently received by the Government of the two pilot-boats being fitted out in the River Zaire, on the coast of Africa, for Brazil, were perfectly understood.

Some time afterwards the Government received information that letters addressed to the said slave-trader had reached the post office, and that he being absent they had been withdrawn from that Department; inquiries having been set on foot, it was discovered where the said correspondence was, and it was spontaneously delivered up.

Information was subsequently furnished to the Government of the existence of a path having been opened between Itapemerim and Itabapoama, and they sent off the Chief of the Police of the province to examine it, and to take the necessary steps in posting there strong detachments.

To these measures we are perhaps indebted for the non-realization, a few days ago, of a disembarkation from a schooner which appeared off Itabapoama with two signals hoisted, and which tarried two days in those waters, without having been met with by the cruisers.

However, one of the crew of the "Macahense" steamer relates that he had seen a vessel at night steering towards the coast, and not far from the steamer, which, from her position, appeared to him to be a suspicious craft.

As to the movement of the planters of the province, which the "Jornal do Commercio" speaks of, the Government has been fully aware of it since 1853,

the time when the fact occurred. It is true that at that time they had only suspicions, which might excite their vigilance, but could not by any means authorise rigorous measures.

Now, however, that the proofs of that seduction are in the hands of the Government, it is very natural that they will make use of them whenever they may judge that circumstances shall call upon them to do so.

It appears to us, therefore, that the Government cannot be accused of a want of activity and vigilance with regard to the Slave Trade. Senhor Nabuco—we are happy in doing him this justice—has acquitted himself with honour of the legacy left him by the counsellor Eusebio de Quiroz.

No. 139.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 14, 1856.

THE persons suspected of being implicated in the attempted landing of slaves at Serinhaem, are still undergoing their trial at Pernambuco.

There are various accounts of the proceedings of Colonel Drummond and his son, who seized the cargo; and some people even go so far as to accuse the President of the Province as having been privy to this enterprise.

Senhor Paranhos says this is not the case, but that Colonel Menezes Drummond and his son are nevertheless implicated; the son by having received Blacks, and the father by not using the precautions he ought to have done, or in trying to screen his son.

I am told, on the other hand, that all are more or less mixed up in the transaction, both the Drummonds and the President; and so little satisfactory was the conduct of the latter at first, that the Minister of Justice here was very near petitioning for his recall from his post.

Senhor Paranhos has promised me a note explanatory of the communications which have taken place, but he regrets that he has not time to send it by this mail.

I decline to form any opinion on the subject till I have received Senhor Paranhos' note: next month I will take the liberty of addressing your Lordship fully upon the subject.

Colonel Portella has been dispatched from Rio de Janeiro to search for the 48 negroes who were stolen from the cargo of 210 whilst off the bar of Serinhaem.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 140.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 14, 1856.

I WAS informed this morning that another landing of slaves had taken place in the small Province of Algoas to the north of Bahia.

A vessel was seen, I find, off this coast near Campos about the 7th of December last; she remained there two days, but eventually disappeared when learning, no doubt by signals, that the Brazilian authorities and troops were on the *qui vive*; it is supposed this is the same craft which is said to have been successful in Algoas.

I communicated this report to Senhor Paranhos, who told me the Brazilian Government were already aware of it, but they did not know as yet if it was founded or not.

The next mail from the north, in a few days, will throw some light on the matter.

I think the Government here are exercising vigilance; and I have good

reasons to know that the slave-dealers are beginning to be alarmed at it; but the Brazilian cruising system does not appear very effective, and, without the aid of Her Majesty's squadron, I fear that now and then the slave-traders will gain their ends.

We want smaller and swifter steamers here, and to be constantly at work, till this new outbreak of the traffickers has been put down.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 141.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 19, 1856

WITH reference to your despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Government respecting the 2 free negroes Laudelino and Honorio, who were sent by the Brazilian authorities from Rio de Janeiro to Pará, for the purpose of being employed in the Government arsenal at the latter port.

I am &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 142.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 8, 1856.

BY the last Royal mail-steamer "Tamar," I received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia the very agreeable intelligence that the North American slaver, the "*Mary E. Smith*," which had fitted out at Boston in August last, and respecting whose sinister intentions of slave-trading information had been furnished by Admiral Johnstone to Her Majesty's Legation, and by this Mission communicated to the Brazilian Government, had been at length captured off the Port of St. Mattheos, on the frontier of the Province of Espirito Santo and Bahia, with 387 slaves on board, 67 of whom have unfortunately died from the effects of want and disease.

This slaver, which has been the object of our anxiety for some time past, was seized about two miles from the bar of St. Mattheos, by the Imperial war-schooner "*Olinda*," about the 19th or 20th of January, and was forthwith dispatched by her captors to Bahia, for legal proceedings.

At the time that the "*Mary E. Smith*" was seized by the Brazilians, she had the United States' ensign flying, and her American papers were found to be in order. Her captain and part of her crew are Americans, and part are Portuguese. There were also a few Portuguese passengers on board, no doubt some of her joint owners, or persons intimately connected with the slave speculation.

In a former despatch, dated December 14, 1855, I had the honour to furnish your Lordship with the names of the owners and consignees, and others connected with this affair, and to inform you that these were Senhors Cunha Reis, Correa, and another named Vianna, who, from the correspondence made known to the Brazilian Government, were found to be partners in this audacious enterprise. I believe they are all Portuguese. The latter, it was reported, intended to come over in this slaver, and most likely he is one of the Portuguese passengers who have been seized by the "*Olinda*."

I beg to have the honour to inclose to your Lordship copy of Mr. Morgan's communication.

Soon after the receipt of this despatch, when I thought I could conveniently call upon Senhor Paranhos, I went to his house, and submitted the intelligence I had received to his Excellency.

Senhor Paranhos informed me that he had heard of the capture, and seemed

much gratified; but he evidently did not know the details of it, such as were to be found in Mr. Morgan's despatch. To his Excellency I expressed the great satisfaction which I was sure Her Britannic Majesty's Government must experience, on learning the auspicious event; and I could not refrain from testifying to his Excellency my own feelings also upon this subject.

The capture of the "*Mary E. Smith*" will be a great blow to the slave-dealers, whose real focus, as far as Brazil is concerned, is, I am given to understand, in Rio de Janeiro.

On our side, we have been far from inactive in watching the likely points of this coast, in order to neutralize the projected attempt of the "*Mary E. Smith*." Rear-Admiral Johnstone, Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces, since the time he received the information from the Lords of the Admiralty that such a project was contemplated, has employed four or five of his vessels in visiting different points of the Brazilian coast.

At the time the Brazilian schooner "*Olinda*" captured the "*Mary E. Smith*," Her Majesty's war-steamer "*Trident*" was only thirty miles to the north of the spot where the capture took place; and had the slaver succeeded in not encountering the Brazilian cruiser after her unfruitful negotiations at St. Mattheos to sell her Blacks, she would have probably gone out to sea, and come round outside the Abrolhos rocks to gain Caravellas by the north channel, where Her Majesty's steamer "*Trident*" was stationed.

At Caravellas there is a fine river about a mile broad, with a smooth bar of twelve or thirteen feet, with great facilities for a disembarkation, and an inducement for it also, as there are many Fazendas near at hand, and a Colony not far distant; besides this there is in the vicinity a whaling establishment, which keeps on foot many boatmen and pilots; and further up the river there is a road or "*picada*" cut through the torrents, which leads up to Minas Geraes and Minas Novas.

I am assured that there is also an internal navigable river between Rio Caravellas and Rio Mucury, or another river.

The bar at St. Mattheos is far from being good, and the fact of the ill success of the "*Mary E. Smith*" in not being able to negotiate her Blacks, where there are a great many sick "*fazendeiros*," indicates that no preparations were made in that quarter.

The report of Her Majesty's cruisers being off the coast, probably disconcerted her plans, and she tried most likely to get rid of her cargo—suffering from disease and want—at any place she could; but I am told there is little doubt that Caravellas (as far as it is yet known) was the real place of the destination of the "*Mary E. Smith*."

Letters for a man named Avila, supposed to be an agent of this slaver, and who went up from hence to Bahia more than a month ago, were waiting for him at Caravellas and at Villa Viçosa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 142.

Consul Morgan to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Bahia, January 30, 1856.

I HAVE great pleasure in acquainting you that the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," which was the subject of a despatch addressed to me by Admiral Johnstone on the 19th of December last, was captured off St. Mattheos (on the frontier of Espirito Santo and this province) some ten days ago, with 387 slaves on board, and arrived in this port last night with 320; 67 having died, since her capture, from want and disease.

This schooner was found to have all her American papers in order, and was commanded by an American, with a mixed crew of American and Portuguese. When captured, there were a few Portuguese passengers on board, no doubt her owners.

She attempted to negotiate her cargo of human flesh at St. Mattheos, having entered that port feigning distress and want of provisions. The authorities, who

had in their possession her description, tried to parley and delay her departure, until a sufficient force could be collected to capture her in port, but one of the passengers, finding they were suspected, pulled off to the schooner, and in half-an-hour she was again under way, when she encountered the Imperial schooner "Olinda," and was captured, with the American colours flying.

Great credit is due to the authorities of this province, as their small cruisers "Olinda," "Thereza," and "Canopo," have been constantly on the look-out after her.

I shall watch vigilantly the proceedings that must take place now for the proper punishment of these men-stealers, and shall not fail to acquaint you with what may take place.

It is also said that this schooner belongs to the Association some time ago instituted at Rio de Janeiro for slave-trading purposes, and she is the first that has brought a cargo of slaves.

At the same time I beg to add, that with the exception of the presence of the "Indefatigable" and "Rifleman," lately in this port, we have had no British regular cruiser in these waters for three months past.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 2 in No. 142.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.

Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, February 4, 1856.

THE intelligence which arrived by the last mail from the north, that the Imperial schooner "Olinda" had seized off St. Mattheos, on the frontiers of Espirito Santo and Bahia, the North American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," with 387 slaves on board, 67 of which are reported to have died after her capture, unfortunately, from want and disease, has caused the greatest pleasure to Her Majesty's Legation at this Court, and no doubt will be a subject of much congratulation on the part of Her Majesty's Government to that of Brazil, as it will be a proof that the Imperial Government has, upon this occasion, taken those praiseworthy precautions which, when followed up with activity and energy, are almost certain to ensure success.

The capture of this slaver by the Imperial cruiser, whilst it is an indication of the firm determination of the Imperial Government to crush all attempts at reviving the detestable African Traffic, will add an additional prestige to the moral force of the Executive, and cause those who are evilly inclined to reflect before they enter heedlessly upon these contraband speculations.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the generosity of the Brazilian Government will not allow them to forget to bestow a recompense on the Commander and officers of the "Olinda," as well as on those authorities who were instrumental in capturing the North American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*."

I avail, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 143.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 11, 1856.

I BEG to inclose to your Lordship copy of a note which I have received from Senhor Paranhos, containing a letter from the Chief of Police to the Minister of Justice, in answer to my note of the 26th of November last, conveying to his Excellency the intelligence which had been forwarded by me relative to the "*Mary E. Smith*," of Boston, against which suspicions existed that she intended a slave voyage to Brazil.

His Excellency informs me that on the 29th of November he wrote to Senhor Nabuco, the Minister of Justice, to acquaint him of these suspicions, and that the Minister of Justice immediately addressed himself, on the 1st of

December, to the Chief of Police in this capital; and states that he did so likewise to all those of the maritime provinces of this Empire, requesting them to observe the greatest possible vigilance with respect to that vessel.

The Chief of Police of Rio de Janeiro, in a letter dated 1st of December, replied to the Minister of Justice, that he was already aware, from confidential information furnished him here, of the projected attempt to land slaves, and even knew the names of the individuals who had promoted the negotiations which were afterwards made known to me by Senhor Paranhos.

Inclosure 1 in No. 143.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, January 21, 1856.

ON the 29th of November last, I had the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which, on the 26th of that month, was addressed to me by Mr. William Stafford Jerningham, &c., relative to an American schooner, the "*Mary E. Smith*," which sailed from Boston for Monte Video in August last, and that there were reasons for suspecting her destination was the Slave Trade.

On that same day, the 29th November, as I then acquainted Mr. Jerningham, I informed the Minister of Justice of the circumstance which occasioned that vessel to be suspected, even according to the opinion of the North American authorities.

The Minister of Justice immediately addressed himself, on the 1st of December last, to the Chief of the Police of this capital, bringing to his knowledge the despatch which he had received from this Ministry, instructing him, as he also did those of all the maritime provinces of the Empire, to observe the greatest possible vigilance with respect to that vessel.

The Chief of the Police of this capital was already aware, from confidential information furnished to him here, of that projected attempt to land slaves, and even knew the names of the individuals who had promoted that negotiation; all of which he communicated to the Minister of Justice in a despatch dated the 4th ultimo, whereof a copy is inclosed.

Being in possession of such positive data respecting the destination of the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," every kind of precaution was taken for the purpose of her apprehension the moment she should arrive in this or any other port of the Empire, and, at the same time, steps were taken to discover who the persons in this country are who still dare to nourish the hope of being able to renew such criminal speculations with impunity.

I have thought it proper to make this communication to Mr. Jerningham, and confirm what I have already had the honour to state to him at our interview on the 13th ultimo.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 143.

The Chief of Police to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

Police Office of the Capital,

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

December 4, 1855.

I HAVE just received your Excellency's despatch of the 1st instant, in which you acquaint me that, from a note addressed by the English Legation at this Court to the Minister for Foreign Affairs under date of the 26th ultimo, it appeared that an American schooner, named the "*Mary E. Smith*," had sailed nearly four months ago from Boston, in ballast, for Monte Video, under circumstances which create a suspicion that she is destined for the Slave Trade, ordering me to exercise the greatest possible vigilance with respect to her.

I have, in reply, the honour to state to your Excellency that this Department, through merely confidential information received from merchants of this city, was already aware of the departure of that vessel, and of her destination;

that she, in fact, sailed from Boston on the 25th of August last, was dispatched by Manoel Bazilio da Cunha Reis, who was then in New York, to Guilherme José da Silva Correa, on the coast of Africa, there to receive on board 550 Africans, and destined to the coasts of this Empire—the said negotiation having been promoted by the said Cunha Reis and Guilherme, and also by one João José Vianna, who is to come in the said schooner.

In consequence of such positive data respecting the destination of this vessel, I have taken every step possible towards her capture as soon as she arrives, and meanwhile am using every endeavour towards ascertaining who the persons are who still dare to maintain so criminal a speculation in this country, certainly forgetting that the Imperial Government, and all the authorities, adopt all the measures, and employ every kind of means at their disposal, in order to put a final stop to the Slave Trade, in rigorously punishing those who, either through audacity or blindness, may have the temerity to promote it.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

No. 144.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 12, 1856.

I BEG to have the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a note from Senhor Paranhos, in answer to the last one I addressed to his Excellency on the 13th of January, upon the attempted Slave Trade aggression at Serinhaem, connected with which both Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco and myself were inclined to believe that there was some improvidence on the part of the Government authorities of that province.

His Excellency also adds a copy of the "pronunciation" by the legal authorities against the suspected persons, as also a copy of a letter from the Chief of Police at Rio de Janeiro to his Excellency the Minister of Justice respecting the arrest of Antonio Severino Avellar, promoter of the enterprise, who arrived from Europe on the 4th of November, and was only made a prisoner near Rio by the Brazilian police on the 14th of that month.

Senhor Paranhos endeavours to prove that there has been no negligence on the part of the President of Pernambuco and his subordinates; but attributes the escape of the captain and the crew, and the robbery of some of the slaves, to Colonel Drummond's want of proper energy, and a desire to screen his son, whom he declares to be implicated in this Slave Trade business.

Inclosure 1 in No. 144.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 2, 1856.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to reply to the note which Mr. William Stafford Jerningham, &c., addressed to him under date of the 13th of last month relative to the seizure of Africans which took place at Serinhaem.

The Undersigned regrets that Mr. Jerningham should be displeased, as it would appear from his above-mentioned note, at the notice which the Undersigned took respecting the date on which he received the note of the 13th of November. The circumstance of the date of this note certainly would not have been worthy of mention, if it were not that it might have led, in the case in question, to an erroneous and indecorous supposition unfavourable to the Imperial Government.

The Undersigned neither had, nor could have, any other meaning in that observation beyond that which he expressed, of removing the impression which might result from the comparing of the dates of Mr. Jerningham's said note and the acts of the Imperial Government, that these were the consequences of the former, that is, that they were not wholly spontaneous or free from all foreign suggestion.

This was so far the meaning of the Undersigned, that he hoped Mr. Jerningham, far from retorting, would have appreciated the scruple of the Brazilian Government in signifying to that of Her Britannic Majesty, that their endeavour to suppress the Slave Trade is as loyal and efficacious as the honour and the interests of the Empire dictate, and, consequently, that the Imperial Government proceeds very spontaneously in prosecuting that endeavour, being always disposed to accept the intervention of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, as a coöperation towards an end which is in common, but not as a stimulus for that which is the duty and the province of the Imperial Government.

The Undersigned was even persuaded that Mr. Jerningham would be foremost in bearing witness to the spontaneousness and zeal with which the Imperial Government exert themselves towards the repression of the Slave Trade in Brazil. The existing relations between the Imperial Government and Her Britannic Majesty's Legation are so intimate and friendly in everything concerning that object, that no doubt could have been entertained in that respect.

It was, therefore, not only with regret, but also with surprise, that the Undersigned saw that that observation of his, not addressed to Mr. Jerningham, and which evidently presupposed the publication, as is customary, of this correspondence, gave rise to propositions in which Mr. Jerningham almost goes as far as to doubt that, respecting the new attempt of the slave-traders, the Imperial Government had proceeded with that degree of solicitude more than once recognized by the very Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

The Undersigned would not accompany Mr. Jerningham upon this ground, even although it were Mr. Jerningham's intention, which the Undersigned does not believe, to be so unjust towards the Imperial Government. He does not desire, and he will do all that lies in his power to avoid, that the official correspondence between this Ministry and Her Britannic Majesty's Legation should, in their mutual relations, present a state of asperity or mistrust, which the Undersigned takes pleasure in believing does not exist.

In accordance with these dispositions, the Undersigned will now explain the facts on which Mr. Jerningham is urgent, and fully complete the information furnished to him in his note of the 4th of December, avoiding, as much as it may be possible, to view, in an odious light, certain observations of Mr. Jerningham which he has just pointed out.

Mr. Jerningham says that it had been apparent to him, with every semblance of truth, that no decision had been taken by the Imperial Government respecting the imprisonment of the noted Antonio Severino d'Avellar, prior to the 13th day of November, the date upon which Mr. Jerningham wrote his first note. He adds that, from the time of the seizure effected in Serinhaem until that date, a considerable time had elapsed, and that it appeared to him that the Imperial Government knew very little of the whole of that affair.

The inclosed copy of an official report of the Chief of the Police of this capital to the Minister of Justice, fully replies to the first of the two propositions above stated. From that document it is seen that the imprisonment of Avellar was resolved upon as soon as he arrived here in the English packet from Europe on the 3rd of November, and was effected on the 14th.

Mr. Jerningham knows that the arrest of that individual, and his being sent to the capital of the Province of Pernambuco, he having been pointed out as guilty of the crime of introducing Africans, were very spontaneous acts of the Imperial Government. Mr. Jerningham also knows that only information had been lodged against Avellar, destitute of proof, that he was involved in the speculation of two pilot-boats which, it was said, he had gone to load in the River Zaire and were destined for Brazil, and the coincidence with this information of the appearance of the pilot-boat seized in Serinhaem. This fact, which strengthened the information, became known about the same time of Avellar's arrival.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation may not see in that act of the Imperial Government a proof of their decided desire to persecute the slave-dealers, and to inflict exemplary punishment on them for the attempt at Serinhaem; but Her Britannic Majesty's Legation cannot also discover in that act anything that would appear to gainsay the real intentions of the Imperial Government.

The Undersigned cannot conjecture what grounds Mr. Jerningham might

have had for supposing that the Imperial Government were ignorant of all that had come to pass in Pernambuco.

The Undersigned begs leave to remind Mr. Jerningham that the Minister of Justice, on the same day upon which the first news of the capture reached this city, hastened to acquaint Mr. Jerningham with it; and that the Undersigned, at the interview which he had with Mr. Jerningham on the 7th of November, spoke to him of those occurrences, and told him that he intended to address to him a communication on that subject. That promise was further confirmed in a private note which he had the honour to address to Mr. Jerningham on the evening of the 13th of that month.

The Imperial Government, therefore, was not ignorant of everything, as unhappily it appeared to Mr. Jerningham to be the case, nor could they be so, even if the President of the Province of Pernambuco had not been careful enough to inform this Ministry and that of Justice, of a fact of such importance. To be entirely ignorant of all, would be not to know that which, officially and unofficially, appeared in the Pernambuco papers, and was partly published in the press of this capital.

Mr. Jerningham's note advanced nothing further than what had been published in the press of Pernambuco, and than what had been officially reported to the Imperial Government. The Undersigned would have imparted the same if other matters had not obliged him to postpone the communication which he was desirous of making to Mr. Jerningham, independently of a request on his part.

The Undersigned did not complain of Mr. Jerningham's believing the news given to him by the British Consul in Pernambuco, nor did he question the distinguished qualifications of that functionary. The Undersigned only observed, and with reason, that the worthy representative of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty at this Court had not hesitated in accepting, as fully proved, the accusations which the opposition press of Pernambuco articulated against the President of that Province and the subaltern authorities.

The information furnished by the British Consul could only be collected from those suspected publications, or from some of their authors, some of whom supposed that the occasion was favourable for casting discredit on the Imperial Government's delegate, whilst others sought, by those means, to remove the suspicion and punishment entailed by their own criminality.

The Consul performed his duty in transmitting to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation all the news which came to his knowledge, with the opinion he had formed thereon; but the Undersigned believes that the Imperial Government had a right to hope that Her Britannic Majesty's Legation would not have at once received, as ascertained facts, the censures which those news contained of the authorities of the country.

Could not the British Consul have been deceived, could he not have been mistaken in his appreciations and conjectures? Mr. Jerningham appears to affirm that he could not, but the Undersigned begs leave to affirm that the British Consul in Pernambuco is not infallible; that in this case now alluded to he deceived himself, and was led into error, as he had been in another case of not a very remote date.

The Undersigned still remembers what that functionary assured the Government of Her Britannic Majesty in a communication which Mr. Jerningham made to this Ministry in his note of the 10th of September last, relative to the North American barque "*Vickery*," which had cleared out from the port of Pernambuco for the coast of Africa.

He asserted that the said barque, which was considered suspected of being destined for Slave Trade, had been cleared by the fiscal authorities of Pernambuco by means of a security given by the master alone, which presented no guaranty, whilst the consignees of the vessel, British merchants of spotless credit, in consequence of the suspicions attached to her, refused to give security for her.

Mr. Jerningham, however, knows that that communication, which gave rise to expressions on his part which could not but grieve the Imperial Government, was subsequently retracted by the Consul himself, when he came to ascertain and bear witness that the barque "*Vickery*" obtained clearance for the coast of Africa by virtue of proper security given by her consignees.

The Undersigned does not mean, in reminding of this fact, to shake the

credit in which the said Consul should be held ; but he believes that a similar precedent, in the absence of any other reason, ought to have induced Mr. Jerningham to have suspended his judgment, and to have awaited more certain and positive information.

The Undersigned did not contend that, in the seizure effected in Serinhaem, there was no negligence on the part of some one, or deny that, both on that account and of the circumstances of the locality, the crew of the pilot-boat contrived to escape, and some of the Africans were missing, as it was said, and was confirmed by the British Consul. What the Undersigned observed to Mr. Jerningham was, that it was rash to form a definitive judgment upon doubtful news and mere presumptions ; that the Government were awaiting the result of the proceedings of the police authority, and that only then they could appreciate facts and discover the culprits.

Experience has shown the truth and propriety of these observations of the Undersigned, as Mr. Jerningham will see from what the Undersigned is going to state to him.

Mr. Jerningham is aware, as was communicated to him by the Undersigned, in his note of the 4th of December, that the Magistrate, Chief of the Police of the Province, went to the district of Rio Formoso immediately after the seizure, in order to institute competent proceedings, and take all such steps as might lead to a perfect knowledge of the crime and the severe punishment of the delinquents.

The zeal with which that magistrate performed his important commission became very public and notorious. He spared no pains which he thought should be taken, and did not shrink from the extreme measure of searching divers sugar plantations in the districts of Serinhaem, Barreiras, Cabo, and Escada.

Although he could not obtain any complete and circumstantial depositions, because all the witnesses spoke from hearsay, without explaining from whom they got information, the said Judge withal obtained the following :—

The pilot-boat brought over 240 Africans. She was built in Angola, and was laden by the mulatto João José de Farias, who resides there.

Thirty out of the 240 Africans died on the voyage, and 1 on the coast of Serinhaem.

Of the 209 who arrived in safety, 49 were taken away before the legal seizure was made by the Commandant of the detachment of police. This abduction, as it would appear, was committed by the son of Colonel Gaspar de Menezes Vasconcellos de Drummond, and Francisco de Paula Wanderley, commonly nicknamed “Chico Caçador.”

The captain of the pilot-boat is by birth a Portuguese, and is named Eduardo Augusto Cesar de Mesquita. Upon landing, he sought the Port of Anjo, saying that he had a letter for the Colonel, for which reason he was conducted to the house of Colonel Menezes. It was in consequence of this mistake that Menezes came to know of the existence of a slaver in the waters of Serinhaem, and, as Delegate of Police, he took some measures for her being seized.

Being in possession of this information, the Chief of the Police followed the thread which it presented to him. The result of the steps taken by him was the discovery of 9 of the abducted Africans, who were met with in the woods of the Caxoeira Sugar Plantation, and the sentence pronounced, whereof a copy is inclosed, in which are comprised 8 persons, some of them of importance, from their wealth and social position.

Mr. Jerningham will see, from what is above stated, that the Consul and Her Britannic Majesty's Legation had been very premature in forming their judgment of this case.

The Undersigned has already shown Mr. Jerningham that the arrest of Avellar had not been decided upon through the interference of the British Legation in this affair, and that the Imperial Government was in full possession of everything that could have been known in this city upon the case in question when Mr. Jerningham's first note was received. It is likewise the province of the Undersigned to state here irrefragable proofs that the measures above related could not have been influenced by the said note of the 13th of November.

The seizure took place on the 13th of October, and was officially known on the 16th of that month in the capital of the province. It is public and notorious that, by order of the President, the barque “Itamaricá” was immediately sent

off, with the Commander of the naval station on board, to bring in the prize, and aid the local authorities in the steps to be taken towards the capture of the crew of the slaver; and for the complete investigation of the crime, the strictest orders were issued to the Delegate of Police in Serinhaem, to the Commandant of the detachment of police, and to the Head Judge of the District.

The "Itamaricá" returned to the Port of Recife on the 24th. No sooner had the Chief of Police concluded the preliminary examinations and surveys prescribed by law, as well of the schooner as of the Africans, and provided for the deposit and treatment of these, than he set off for the District of Serinhaem. A vessel-of-war was sent there to be placed at his disposal, and another went to cruize upon the coast to the north. Various other auxiliary measures were at the same time taken, which it is unnecessary here to state.

On the 19th of November that magistrate was back again in the capital, and on the 25th he pronounced his sentence.

It is evident that all these acts, commenced and concluded in Pernambuco from the 16th of October to the 25th of November, could not be the effect of the observations and indications which Mr. Jerningham thought proper to address to the Imperial Government under date of the 13th of November, and which the Undersigned only received on the 20th.

The Undersigned might still add, if it were necessary, in order to show the spontaneousness of the proceedings of the Imperial Government and of their authorities, that, under divers dates, from the 25th of October, various orders and instructions were sent to the President of Pernambuco relative to the occurrence at Serinhaem.

Mr. Jerningham no longer asserts that the districts of Serinhaem and Rio Formoso were without chiefs, but he still manifests the persuasion, with reference to the words of the British Consul, that there was negligence on the part of some of the authorities of the province; it appearing evident to him that such negligence existed from the fact of the flight of the slaver's crew, and of the abduction of some of the Africans, whose number Mr. Jerningham raises to 60 or 70, whereas it was not above 47, and was reduced to 38 by the seizure subsequently made by the Chief of Police.

The Undersigned will consider Mr. Jerningham's censure under the same point of view in which he presented it in his last note.

The President of the Province was informed, as Mr. Jerningham observes, that there was a rumour as early as on the 5th of July of a disembarkation in Serinhaem. Therefore the local authorities ought to have been apprised of it, and to have been vigilant until it became known what had become of the pilot-boats which were said to have gone to the River Zaire to receive Africans destined for Brazil.

The Undersigned observes that all the authorities on the coast of Brazil must be watchful and vigilant, as long as there is no certainty that the slave-traders are, once for all, persuaded that they will only meet in Brazil the frustration of their criminal speculations and the most severe persecution. The Imperial Government, however, cannot exact impossibilities from those authorities, as they confide much in their patriotism. Even the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will recognize, from the long experience they have of the repression of Slave Trade, that what Mr. Jerningham seems to expect is not always possible.

The information lodged with the President of the Province on the 5th of July was very vague and uncertain; no indication whatever, not any one suspected person was thereby pointed out. The President did not slight it, but no result was obtained from the measures which he and the subaltern authorities adopted. Until the 11th of October, on which the pilot-boat made her appearance, everything led to the belief, either that that rumour was groundless, or that the plan had been frustrated by the vigilance evinced by the authorities.

Three months having elapsed without the authorities on shore or the cruizers, including the Commander of the British war-steamer "Rifleman," having perceived any indication which might cause suspicion, how, under such circumstances, can a fact be considered strange and unjustifiable, of the arrival of a vessel at that almost desert shore, and that it should have been impossible for the local authorities to secure the total seizure of the Africans and of their introducers?

Mr. Jerningham says that the subsequent information received, of two pilot-boats having been sent to the River Zaire, from whence they were to return

with Africans to Brazil, was enough to give force to the information of the 5th of July, and to keep the authorities on the alert until the ulterior destination of those pilot-boats should be known.

The Undersigned requests Mr. Jerningham to consider, first, that the information respecting the two pilot-boats was communicated by Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to this Ministry, on the 27th of September last; and secondly, that that information indicated as suspicious points only those comprised between Bahia and Campos—so much so, that Mr. Jerningham only recommended the Imperial Government to use great vigilance, and to establish cruizers, between those points. Such information, therefore, could not, either from its date or from the indications given, contribute to the seizure of the contraband in Serinhaem, on the 11th of October, being more successful than it was.

Notwithstanding, however, all the circumstances herein stated, which the Undersigned hopes will modify Mr. Jerningham's opinion that the two facts which lessen the lustre of the seizure, that is, the flight of the slaver's crew, and the abduction of 47 Africans, would have been avoided if the Delegate of Police, Colonel Drummond, who was the nearest to the place where the crime was committed, and the first who was apprized of it, had proceeded with that activity and rigour which his duty dictated.

The information obtained by the Chief of Police unhappily leads to the belief that that authority, to whom, besides, the British Consul attributes all the merit of the seizure, was the cause of the occurrence of those facts, in not guarding against them at once.

The despatches and orders of the President of the Province, issued since the 5th of July, have not been so useless as it appears to Mr. Jerningham; they have had the salutary effect of disheartening those persons of that place who were implicated in that speculation, or were disposing themselves to join in it. Had that not been the case, the pilot-boat, having anchored close to the Island of Santo Aleixo on the 11th of October, would not have remained there without some person from the shore going off to her, and without the smallest attempt being made for effecting a landing before the 12th, when, from a fortuitous circumstance, she precipitately entered the Bar of Serinhaem, and there was stranded. Had not that been the case, after this accident and during the interval which elapsed until the arrival of the detachment of police, on the 13th, at daybreak, the introducers and their accomplices would have done more than taking away 47 Africans.

Evidently those criminals knew that in the town of Serinhaem, and neighbouring districts, there were authorities who would not consent to the commission of their criminal designs, and whose vigilance they could not escape.

The Undersigned assured Mr. Jerningham that the Imperial Government neither required nor wished to dissimulate anything which might be correct, in the vague accusations which appeared in the opposition newspapers of Pernambuco; that, on the contrary, they were desirous that everything should be investigated, and that they were determined most severely to punish that criminal attempt, without caring for the quality of the delinquents.

The facts above stated prove that this assurance given by the Undersigned was not an empty promise; and what follows, the more confirms and demonstrates it.

The Imperial Government were not satisfied with the result of the first investigations of the Chief of the Police, although they led to the discovery of 9 of the missing Africans, and the impeachment of eight individuals as authors and accomplices in that illicit Traffic, in conformity with the Law of the 4th of September, 1850.

Desirous not only to save from slavery the 33 Africans who were not met with during the searches and investigations of that authority, as well as to render as exemplary as may be possible the punishment on their part of the fresh relapse of the slave-traders and of their accomplices in the Empire, the Imperial Government ordered, in a despatch of the 31st ultimo, the following: first, that the Delegate of Police should be made answerable, as being suspected of having consented to the escape of the captain of the pilot-boat, and of conniving with his son, one of the impeached persons; secondly, that searches were to be repeated of the suspected places, with the presence of the Chief of the Police, or of some other trustworthy authority, in order to the seizure of the 38 stolen Africans;

thirdly, that fresh steps and investigations should be taken and instituted for the imprisonment of the impeached delinquents, and the indictment of others who may perchance become known, by virtue of such fresh proofs as may be collected.

These acts, solely dictated by the honour and interests of the Empire, will, the Undersigned trusts, have the effect of convincing Mr. Jerningham that the desire of the Imperial Government to extinguish the Slave Trade to Brazil cannot be more sincere and decided than it is.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 144.

Sentence.

(Translation.)

THE inquest at pages of the record of the arrest, recognition, and examination, at pages and other parts of the process, subject to imprisonment, for having incurred the penalty of the 2nd Article of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, the defendants João José de Farias, Augusto Cezar de Mesquita ou Menezes, Manoel Elias Salgado, Manoel Fidelis do Nascimento, Antonio da Silva Pereira, Dr. Antonio Menezes Vasconcellos de Drummond, Francisco de Paula Cavalcanti Wanderley, known as "Chico Caçador," and José Francisco Accioli Luis, known as Cazumba, the first two being considered authors and the others accomplices, according to the 3rd Article of the Law of the 4th of September 1850, No. 581: João José de Farias, because, according to the depositions of the first, third, fourth, sixth, seventh, and eighth witnesses, he dispatched the pilot-boat from Angola, laden with Africans, and is considered as the owner, or one of the owners, of the vessel and her cargo, and Augusto Cezar de Mesquita ou Menezes (or whatever his name may be), for having been the captain of the vessel, of whom Manoel Fidelis do Nascimento spoke in his interrogatory at page , and the informer Honorio Fiel das Nives, in the declaration at page , and all the witnesses. The following defendants are considered as accomplices, and pronounced as such—viz., Manoel Elias Salgado, Nascimento, and Silva Pereira; the first, because, being Head Inspector of the Ward, and having been ordered to call upon the citizens to go with him for the purpose of capturing and keeping possession of the vessel and her cargo, as at page , he assisted the disembarkation of the abducted Africans, consenting to the robbery, and retiring from the vessel, where he should have remained, as is deposed by the first and second witnesses, adding that the third, sixth, and eighth witnesses even accuse him of having taken some Africans for himself; Manoel Fidelis, because, from his own confession in the interrogatory at page , and depositions of witnesses second, fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth, he was the person who conducted the captain of the slaver to the shore, and various articles belonging to that vessel were found in his house, by which proceeding he aided and intervened in the illicit landing; Silva Pereira, likewise, because he lent his aid to the illegal Slave Trade, and took away some of the imported Africans, for, he being a resident near the Bar of Serinhaem, where he was present on the occasion of the pilot-boat's arrival, and the seizure of 162 Africans, and which necessarily must have been a solemn act, and for that reason would have called to it the attention of the dwellers on that spot, he artfully declared, in his interrogatory at page , that he had seen nothing, because he kept at home, having no curiosity, whereas Honorio Fiel, in his information at page , declared that the defendant treated and dined with the captain of the slaver in his own house, where his trunks were kept, without the defendant's having informed the authority of it, or made any revelation in this respect—facts, these, which are confirmed by the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth witnesses, and were not contradicted in a satisfactory manner by the defendant, although present. The three last before-mentioned defendants are also considered accomplices, according to the law quoted; Dr. Antonio de Menezes, because, having treated with the captain of the slaver, and having been with that person on the beach on the 12th of October, when the pilot-boat was already in the port, and therefore no apprehension could have been entertained of her

escaping that could neutralize her capture, he did not inform against him, nor contribute towards his being captured upon a spot where he would have been obeyed by the dwellers on the lands belonging to his father, but allowed him, as well as his crew, to escape, as is seen in the declaration of Honorio, at page , and of the third, fifth, sixth, and eighth witnesses; finally, against the defendants Wanderley and Acciolo Luis all the witnesses depose, accusing them of having gone on board the pilot-boat when she was entering the port, and of having taken Africans from on board, the fact of that robbery being proved by the seizure of the 9 Africans in the woods of the Caxoeira Plantation, as is seen in the respective record of the interrogatory at page to page . Wherefore, I pronounce the imprisonment of the said defendants, as having incurred the penalties of the 2nd Article of the said Law of the 7th of November, 1831, the two first mentioned as authors, and all the others as accomplices, according to the 3rd Article of the Law of the 4th of September, 1850. The Clerk of the Court is to inscribe their names on the List of Delinquents, and to issue orders for the capture of those who are absent, &c., &c.

Recife, November 25, 1855.

(Signed)

LUIS CARLOS DE PAIVA TEIXEIRA,

Chief of Police and Auditor of Marine.

Inclosure 3 in No. 144.

The Chief of Police to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Police Office of the Capital,

November 15, 1855.

ALTHOUGH I have already verbally told your Excellency the reasons why the arrest of Antonio Severino d'Avellar, who is suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, has not been effected, I nevertheless think it my duty to state by the present, that having, as authorised by your Excellency, decreed the arrest of that individual on his arrival from Europe in the steamer "Tamar," it would not have been effected sooner than yesterday, because as he was residing in the city of Nitheroy, and the Chief of the Police of that city, to whom alone I wished to entrust the execution of that task, was absent on service at Pirahy, I expected that the said Avellar would have come to this city, according to custom, but without effect, he not being personally known to the agents of this Department, as I myself, for two days running, on the 11th and 12th instant, waited for him at the landing-place on the wharf of the steamers, until, fearing the measures taken would be frustrated, with your Excellency's authorisation I officially requested the Delegate of Nitheroy to arrest him, which service he promptly performed in a most praiseworthy manner.

He (Avellar) is now a prisoner in the barracks of the Permanentis (police corps), and will be kept there until sent to some other prison, and as soon as he has been interrogated, &c., I shall report the same to your Excellency as in duty bound.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

No. 145.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, February 12, 1856.

I BEG to have the honour to forward copy of a communication from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, Mr. Morgan, which reached me yesterday, respecting the investigations which have been commenced at Bahia, with regard to the captured slaver "*Mary E. Smith*."

It has been intimated to me here, that the Minister of Justice intends to have the "*Mary E. Smith*," her captain, crew and passengers, as well as the

newly imported Africans, all transferred from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, in order that the culpable shall not escape from the hands of justice, or the slaves be unfairly dealt with.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

Inclosure in No. 145.

Consul Morgan to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Bahia, February 4, 1856.

WITH reference to my last despatch of the 30th ultimo, communicating the capture of the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," with 387 Bozal negroes, by the Imperial Brazilian cruiser "*Olinda*," I have now the honour to state that the preliminary investigations have only now commenced, owing to the absence of the "*Olinda*," on board of which were the captain and the crew of the captured schooner, as well as the so-called Portuguese passengers.

Two of the captured negroes speak Portuguese, and have been able to give an account of themselves, which is so far satisfactory as to forward the ends of justice in the prosecution now about to be entered into against the said captain, crew, and passengers.

The President has promised me copies of the ship's papers and other documents, for transmission to the Earl of Clarendon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

No. 146.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, February 12, 1856.

I BEG to have the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a despatch from Rear-Admiral Johnstone, inclosing copy of a report of proceedings made to him by Lieutenant Hervey, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Trident*," on his return from his late cruise against the Slave Trade; together with memorandum of information obtained by Lieutenant Hervey relative to a brig, name and nation unknown, fitted out for slaves, which is stated to have been found by the inhabitants near the River Barra Secca, abandoned on shore, about fourteen months ago.

Inclosure 1 in No. 146.

Rear-Admiral Johnstone to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

"Indefatigable," Rio de Janeiro, February 6, 1856.

WITH reference to your letter to the senior officer of the 27th of December last, I have now the honour to inclose a copy of the report of proceedings which I received from Lieutenant Hervey of Her Majesty's ship "*Trident*," on his return to this port yesterday afternoon, as well as of a memorandum of information obtained relative to a brig, name and nation unknown, fitted for slaves, and which is stated to have been found abandoned near Rio Barra Secca, about fourteen months since.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. J. HOPE JOHNSTONE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 146.

Lieutenant-Commander Hervey to Rear-Admiral Johnstone.

Sir,

"Trident," Rio de Janeiro, February 5, 1856.

I HAVE to report that in obedience to your orders I left Rio de Janeiro in Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Trident," under my command, on the 29th of December, 1855. On the 1st of January the key of the air-pump connecting rod broke, and there being no spare one on board, I had to dispense with steam for six hours, while a temporary one was being made. This accident, combined with strong north-easterly winds which we experienced off Cape Frio, delayed our arrival at Espirito Santo till 6 P.M. on the 2nd of January.

On the morning of the 3rd, I proceeded to the town, off which I found Her Majesty's steamer "Rifleman" at anchor, and having visited the Vice-President of the province, arrived off Port Alegre, Rio Mucury, on the evening of the 4th of January. I waited here till the morning of the 6th to procure a pilot, the charts of this part of the coast being very incorrect, and the whole abounding with rocks and shoals, the channels through which are only known to the fishermen and pilots in the vicinity, one of whom I retained on board during my stay in the neighbourhood. I then proceeded to Villa Viçosa, arriving the same day, and sailed again on the 7th for Rio Caravellas, where I anchored the same evening. I remained here till the 10th of January, when I moved on to Alcobaça, returning to Caravellas on the 12th, where I remained at anchor about six miles off the land till the 22nd of January, when I moved to the southward as far as Villa Viçosa, remaining here till the 26th, when I proceeded to Port Alegre, Rio Mucury, and which place I left the next morning.

At Villa Viçosa, Caravellas, and Alcobaça, I visited the chief authorities to endeavour to procure information as to the state of the Slave Trade at these places, and the expected arrival of the vessel named in my orders, of which they had not been apprised by the Brazilian Government; the latest information they had received was in October last, respecting the master and crew of the vessel that had been seized with slaves near Pernambuco, whom they had orders to arrest, and to observe vigilance in preventing a debarkation of negroes in their several districts; and from all the information I could collect respecting the Traffic in Blacks at the places visited, there are no grounds for believing any vessel is expected at any of them, or that any slaves have been landed in their vicinity for a considerable time, although the rivers at Villa Viçosa, Caravellas, and Alcobaça, afford every facility for carrying on the Traffic, and which the authorities acknowledged.

The intricacy of the navigation, known only to the fishermen on the coast, prevents ships of war approaching, and I was informed that the "Trident" was the first English ship of war that had ever visited those places.

At Caravellas, the bar at the entrance of the river has about ten feet water on it, low tide, with a rise and fall of about six feet, and vessels of 120 tons and upwards trade there from Bahia and Rio de Janeiro. At the entrance of the river is an establishment for whale oil, and it was said that last year as many as seventy whales had been captured. The town itself is between six and seven miles up the river, with five fathoms water abreast of it; the deepest water, about seven fathoms, being inside the bar, the depths mid-channel up to the town five and six fathoms.

On the 20th January a Brazilian brigantine of war passed us from the northward, which I learnt had touched at Alcobaça from Bahia, passing through the inner channel, and returning to the northward outside the Abrolhos. I was informed that Brazilian cruisers are seldom seen at any of the above places, and that there had not been one for two years previously.

On the 29th of January I anchored off Espirito Santo, and, having visited the Vice-President, sailed on the 30th. On the 3rd of February I anchored off Armação, and left on the morning of the 4th for this port, to await further orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. B. HERVEY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 146.

Memorandum of Information relative to a Brig, name and nation unknown, fitted for Slaves, stated to have been found abandoned near Rio Barra Secca, about fourteen months since.

Reports—

THAT about fourteen months since a brig, name and nation unknown, was found on shore with all sail set, abandoned, and equipped for Slave Trade, near Barra Secca, between St. Mattheo and Rio Doce; the master and crews of the said vessel arrived at Caravellas, with their clothes, &c., stating that they had been wrecked on the neighbouring coast.

After their departure from Caravellas, a person came there from St. Mattheo, who stated that a brig had been wrecked about seven leagues south of that village, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, but abandoned.

The launch of the brig, it is said, was sold by the master at the bar of Caravellas, and was pointed out to the informer as having belonged to that vessel.

The master was a Spaniard and the crew Portuguese; and a person at St. Mattheo had in his possession some fire-arms which were found on board the brig, as she was plundered of everything by the inhabitants of St. Mattheo and Rio Doce, with not a vestige of her now remaining.

No. 147.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 17, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th ultimo, reporting the capture off St. Mattheos by the Brazilian war-schooner "Olinda," of the American vessel "Mary E. Smith," with 387 slaves on board; and I have to acquaint you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on learning the capture of this vessel.

I have at the same to instruct you to express to the Brazilian Government the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government has received the intelligence of this capture.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 148.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 17, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo,* inclosing a note addressed to you by Senhor Paranhos, in which he defends the conduct of the Brazilian authorities with respect to the recent landing of slaves at Serinhaem.

I have to state that it appears to me that Senhor Paranhos does not satisfactorily exonerate the Government authorities of the Province of Pernambuco, from the complaint which has been made against them, that they have failed to exert sufficient vigour in repressing this scandalous violation of the law; and that they have from vindictive motives selected innocent persons for prosecution, whilst those seriously implicated, such as the local Chief of Police, and others, have been allowed to escape with impunity.

And I have to direct you to express to Senhor Paranhos the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the future proceedings of the Brazilian Government in this affair will be such as to prove that they are determined that the

* No. 144.

provincial authorities on every part of the coast of Brazil shall be encouraged and stimulated to exert the same laudable activity in putting down the Slave Trade, as was shown by the authorities of St. Matthew's in the affair of the "*Mary E. Smith*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 149.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos,* reporting the revival of the Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin, and I have to instruct you to communicate the substance of Mr. Campbell's despatch to the Brazilian Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 150.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 29, 1856.

I TRANSMIT, herewith, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, complaining of the barbarous conduct of the masters of two Portuguese vessels, named the "*General Rego*" and the "*Emilia*," towards several liberated Africans whom they had engaged to convey from Bahia to Lagos.

It appears that what occurred in the case of the "*General Rego*" was most deplorable, for the master forced 40 Africans to land at Whydah, a notorious slave-mart, where they were first plundered of their property, and were then sent to the King of Dahomey, who put them to death because they were Egbas, with which nation he is at enmity; and in the case of the "*Emilia*," 15 Africans were put on shore at Aghwey, and although they were fortunately enabled to escape from thence, their property was detained on board the vessel.

I have to instruct you to communicate the contents of Mr. Campbell's despatch to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to state that Her Majesty's Government feel convinced that the Imperial Government will be ready to take any measures which may be in their power in order to prevent the recurrence of such heartless and cruel treatment of the Africans who are forced by the Government of Brazil to quit that country as soon as they have been liberated; and you will recommend to his Excellency the adoption of the plan suggested by Mr. Campbell, of obliging the owners of vessels taking liberated Africans from the ports of Brazil to give bond for the disembarkation of such passengers and of their property at the places designated at the time of departure by the Africans themselves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 20.

† No. 29.

No. 151.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1856.

I TRANSMIT, herewith, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon,* stating that Senhor Monteiro, the Brazilian Minister at that Court, had communicated to him, by direction of his Government, information respecting the order given by that Government for the expulsion from Brazil of the Portuguese slave-dealer Antonio Severino de Avellar, and also respecting the clandestine departure from Rio de Janeiro to Loanda of Francisco José da Rosa, who is suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have to instruct you to thank the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs for having instructed Senhor Monteiro to communicate the above information to Mr. Howard.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 152.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1856.

I TRANSMIT, herewith, copies of a letter addressed by the British Consul at Oporto to Mr. Howard,† and of a despatch from Mr. Howard,‡ respecting the case of a Brazilian slave named José Maria, who escaped from the Brazilian brig "Iris," at Oporto, in August 1855, was then taken prisoner, and was, on the 23rd ultimo, put on board a Brazilian vessel in order to be sent home to his master, upon which occasion the slave having endeavoured to regain his liberty was wounded and taken back to prison.

You will learn from Mr. Howard's despatch that although Senhor Monteiro, the Brazilian Minister at Lisbon, was obliged to make a formal application to the Portuguese Government for the extradition of José Maria, yet he took every possible step in order to secure the liberation of the slave, and obtained from his Government the issue of an order directing the competent authorities in Brazil to prevent the embarkation of slaves on board vessels bound for Portugal; and I have to instruct you to express to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have viewed the proceedings of Senhor Monteiro in this affair, and the orders issued by the Brazilian Government thereupon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 260.

† Inclosure in No. 256.

‡ No. 261.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Bahia*.

No. 153.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 13.)

My Lord,

Bahia, March 17, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship translated extracts from the speech of the President of this province on the opening of the Provincial Assembly on the 1st instant.

Your Lordship will find in these extracts a confirmation of the facts I had the honour to communicate to you in my despatches of the 1st and 4th of January,* of the complete cessation of the Traffic, and that the present able President, Dr. João Mauricio Wanderley, is equally convinced of the barbarous system now practised of exporting slaves from this port to Rio de Janeiro, which, if permitted to be continued, will ultimately injure considerably the agricultural interests of Bahia.

It is also satisfactory to observe that since the passing of the Imperial Decree No. 1,103 of the 28th September, 1853, no less than 136 emancipated Africans have received their tickets of freedom in this province, and I have no doubt that the remainder on serving their apprenticeship will eventually recover the rights of free men.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 153.

Extracts from the Speech of the President of the Province of Bahia, addressed to the Provincial Legislative Assembly on the 1st of March, 1855.

(Translation.)

NO disembarkation of slaves or any attempt at this crime has taken place, neither has there been the least suspicion.

Of the slaves captured at times previous to the Law of the 4th September, 1850, and who, distributed amongst private individuals, were under the management of the Judge of Orphans, have passed to that of the Solicitor-General, 252, of whom 136 obtained papers of freedom, which are in their possession, in accordance with the provisions of the Decree No. 1,103 of 28th of September, 1853, and the remaining 116 will obtain them if they appear comprehended in this latter disposition.

The female slaves have had 124 children, who are under the care of the Solicitor-General, and are delivered to masters or to respectable families who look after them. That proportion who are nearing their majority come under the denomination of Brazilian citizens, being so by the fact of their birth.

Of the slaves captured since the above-named Law, there exist 374, all distributed amongst the public establishments or employed in the works of the province.

The injury arising from the want of labourers will be felt at no distant period, should the emigration of slaves be continued to the southern ports of

* Class B, presented 1855, Nos. 188 and 190.

the Empire, without it be substituted by some other means, or this barbarous Traffic prohibited, which is but a repetition of the horrors that accompanied the old Traffic to the coast of Africa, while it tends to impoverish the province.

The duty of Rs. 100\$000, levied on exportation is not sufficient to diminish the evil. During the last year 1,835 slaves were exported, namely, 583 taken away from the field; 836 from this city and its neighbouring towns and hamlets; and 416 without declaration from whence they came. To Rio de Janeiro alone 1,692 slaves were sent. In a few years where will our agriculture find the required supply of labour for those that are taken away from us? It is necessary that we should think of the future in order not to leave our successors an impoverished land which our ancestors left to us in a rich and progressing condition.

I have tried to obtain a statistic of the product of the culture of the sugar cane, to furnish you with its details. From the returns, the number of the sugar mills in the province is 1,651; of these, 253 are worked by water, 144 by steam, and 1,274 by animals.

The number of labourers regularly employed in those mills are from 48,000 to 50,000 individuals, of which near 40,000 are slaves, and the remainder are free.

The produce of those mills, one year with another, is 4,000,000 of arrobas of sugar, 200,000 to 300,000 arrobas of rapaduras, and 5,000,000 gallons of molasses.

No. 154.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 14.)

My Lord,

Bahia, March 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying Lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 1 in No. 154.

List of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1855.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1855 Jan. 19	Sardinian	Polacca	Giudetta	144	9	E. Chiozzi	Not known	Oil	Ajudá	24
2	" 19	Portuguese	Brig	Liberal	236	12	M. Nogueira	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa	22
3	" 20	Sardinian	Patacho	Iride	100	10	D. G. Ansaldo	Ditto	General	Brocussu	23
4	Mar. 14	Hamburgh	Schooner	Sylphide	140	11	— Meyer	Ditto	Ballast	Coast of Africa	27
5	" 26	Sardinian	Patacho	Destino	261	11	L. Giustiniani	Ditto	Oil, &c.	Ajudá	47

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 154.

List of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1855.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1855 Jan. 13	Sardinian	Brig	Roza	252	11	Jozé Pitaluga	Not known	Rum and tobacco	Coast of Africa.
2	" 14	Portuguese	Ditto	Intrepido	211	14	A. F. das Dores	Ditto	General	Ditto.
3	" 17	Sardinian	Barque	Bella Limegua	303	13	G. Maggi	Ditto	Rum and tobacco	Ditto.
4	" 29	Portuguese	Yacht	Veloz	102	9	A. G. dos Santos	Ditto	Tobacco, &c.	Ditto.
5	Mar. 17	Ditto	Brig	General Rego	225	12	D. C. Lage	Ditto	General	Ditto.
6	" 28	Sardinian	Patacho	Iride	100	9	D. G. Ansaldo	Ditto	Rum and tobacco	Ditto.

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

No. 155.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 14.)

My Lord,

Bahia, April 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 7th and 21st February last,* in the latter of which I am instructed to communicate with Mr. Consul Campbell at Lagos, from time to time, any intelligence respecting the equipment of vessels at Bahia, or any movements connected with the Slave Trade, which may prove useful to him in his endeavours to thwart the proceedings of the slave-dealers.

I shall not fail to comply with your instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

No. 156.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 16.)

My Lord,

Bahia, May 16, 1855.

WITH reference to the subject-matter of my despatch of the 26th December last,† and your Lordship's despatch of the 28th March,‡ I beg to add, that the Brazilian Law No. 708 of the 14th October, 1850, Article XXXII, specifies the cases where a legal presumption may be entertained that a vessel is employed in the Traffic of Slaves in relation to the number of empty casks or loose staves shipped from a Brazilian port, but it makes no mention of a cargo in transit through a Brazilian port which had already been subject to the requirements of the regulations and laws of the foreign country to which that vessel belonged, the more so when that cargo never touched Brazilian soil.

This was the case with the French barque "Camelia," and it now appears that the Minister of France at Rio de Janeiro has protested against the interpretation given to that law by the Export Office of this city, demanding the rescission of the bond given by the consignees of the "Camelia," and claiming a compensation of 20 per cent. on the value of that bond for the three sureties then tendered, besides the expenses arising on the ship's detention.

The Imperial Government at once ordered the bond to be cancelled, and the compensation is, I understand, likely to be granted at the instance of the said Minister of France.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

No. 157.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Bahia, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, the half-yearly Return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN Jun.

* Class B, presented 1855, Nos. 186 and 187.

† Ibid., No. 185.

‡ Ibid., No. 191.

Inclosure in No. 157.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending December 31, 1854.								For the half-year ending June 30, 1855.							
	Currency.				Sterling.				Currency.				Sterling.			
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
African males	900\$	to 1,000\$	105	0	0	to 116	13	4	1,000\$	to 1,100\$	115	12	6	to 127	3	9
Ditto females	850\$	950\$	99	3	4	110	16	8	950\$	1,000\$	109	16	10	115	12	6
Creole males	1,000\$	1,100\$	116	13	4	128	6	8	1,100\$	1,200\$	127	3	9	138	15	0
Ditto, with professions .	1,500\$	2,000\$	175	0	0	233	6	8	1,700\$	2,200\$	196	11	3	254	7	6
Ditto, females	900\$	950\$	105	0	0	110	16	8	1,000\$	1,100\$	115	12	6	127	3	9

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.
British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1855.

No. 158.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,
I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, the accompanying Lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended this day.
I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 1 in No. 158.

List of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1855.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1855 May 1	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilia	..	78	A. C. C. Gerales	..	Oil, &c.	Porto Novo	31

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1855.(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 158.

List of Vessels which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1855.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	1855 Apr. 17	Hamburgh	Schooner	Sylphide	..	155	— Meyer	Not known	Rum	Coast of Africa.	
2	" 25	Portuguese	Big	Zaire	..	409	Rayo. Anto. de Lima	Ditto	Rum and tobacco	Ditto.	
3	" 28	Ditto	Patacho	Dons Irruãos	..	161	A. A. d' Amorim	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.	
4	May 3	Ditto	Ditto	Cesar	..	131	Anto. J. Caiado	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.	
5	" 12	Ditto	Ditto	Providencia	..	225	J. C. da Silva	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	29 free blacks passengers.
6	" 12	British	Big	Thomas Shooks	..	320	— Woodward	John Forster	Ditto	Ditto.	
7	" 20	Ditto	Schooner	Coquette	..	56	J. W. Williams	Stuart and Douglas	Ditto	Ditto.	
8	" 30	Portuguese	Patacho	Mandeço	..	141	W. Waddington	Not known	Ditto	Prince's Island.	
9	June 30	Sardinian	Ditto	Italia	..	162	M. Olivari	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa.	

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1855.(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*

No. 159.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Bahia, October 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the accompanying Lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended yesterday.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 1 in No. 159.

List of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1855.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	July 21	Hamburgh	Schooner	Sylphide	140	10	— Meyer	Not known	Ballast	Lagos	31
2	" 31	French	Barque	Indus	220	12	Louis Bonnett	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa	28
3	Aug. 20	Portuguese	Yacht	Veloz	160	12	A. G. dos Santos	Ditto	Ditto	Popoe Grande	..
4	" 31	Sardinian	Patacao	Iride	100	9	— Ansaldo	Ditto	Oil, &c.	Ajudá	24

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 159.

List of Vessels which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1855.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	July 19	Sardinian	Polacca	Felice	299	14	L. Raggio	Not known	Rum and tobacco	Coast of Africa.
2	Aug. 1	Portuguese	Barque	Dona Francisca	392	16	J. Pa. Mesquita	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
3	" 18	Hamburgh	Schooner	Sylphide	140	11	— Meyer	Ditto	General	Ditto.
4	Sept. 2	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilia	103	8	J. A. dos Santos	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
5	" 22	Ditto	Ditto	Agua	144	12	Custodio J. dos Santos	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

No. 160.

Circular to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil.

Sir, Foreign Office, January 19, 1856.

A CASE having occurred in which one of Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil, actuated, I believe, by motives of benevolence, undertook to purchase and to assume the guardianship of 3 young slaves, I have to state to you that such a proceeding on the part of any British subject is contrary to the laws of England, and especially to the Statute 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98, which absolutely forbids British subjects to own or hold slaves under any circumstances, and renders their so doing criminal, without regard to their motives or intentions, or even to the ultimate advantage which might accrue therefrom to such slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 161.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 12, 1856.)

My Lord, Bahia, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, the half-yearly Return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 161.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending June 30, 1855.				For the half-year ending December 31, 1855.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African males	1,000s to 1,100s		115 12 6	to 127 3 9	1,000s to 1,100s		116 13 4	to 128 6 8
Ditto females	950s	1,000s	109 16 10	115 12 6	950s	1,000s	110 16 8	116 13 4
Crocoic males	1,100s	1,200s	127 3 9	138 15 0	1,100s	1,200s	128 6 8	140 0 0
Ditto, with professions .	1,700s	2,200s	196 11 3	254 7 6	1,700s	2,200s	193 6 8	256 13 4
Ditto, females . . .	1,000s	1,100s	115 12 6	127 3 9	1,000s	1,100s	116 13 4	128 6 8

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.
British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1855.

No. 162.

*Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 12, 1856.)*My Lord, *Bahia, December 31, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the accompanying Lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended this day.

It is to me very satisfactory to be again able to acquaint your Lordship that no attempt, or sign of an attempt of any kind, exists or has existed during the present year to renew the Traffic. Although the cholera has made frightful havoc amongst the slave population in the province, and I regret to say is not yet completely extinct on several sugar estates, the general feeling appears to repel the idea of making good the loss by illicit importations from the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 1 in No. 162.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1855.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
	1855										
1	Oct. 18	Portuguese	Patacho	Providencia	150	12	J. C. da Silva	Not known	Ballast	Ajudá	28
2	Nov. 5	British	Schooner	Coquette	56	7	J. W. Williams	Stuart and Douglas	Ditto	Lagos	31
3	" 20	Portuguese	Patacho	Dous Irmãos	123	10	A. A. d'Amorim	Not known	General	Acará	30
4	" 20	Hamburgh	Schooner	Sylphide	138	16	— Meyer	Ditto	Ditto	Lagos	39

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 162.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1855.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
	1855									
1	Nov. 4	Portuguese	Brig	Intrepido	282	14	Auto. F. dos Dore	Not known	General	Coast of Africa.
2	" 6	Sardinian	Patacho	Iride	100	10	— Ansaldo	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
3	" 28	Portuguese	Yacht	Veloz	102	9	A. J. Costa	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
4	Dec. 5	French	Polacca	Robuste	263	..	— Phel	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
5	" 8	Portuguese	Brig	Esperança	..	..	— Braquinho	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
6	" 12	British	Schooner	Coquette	56	7	J. W. Williams	Stuart and Douglas	Ditto	Ditto.
7	" 20	Hamburgh	Ditto	Sylphide	140	..	— Meyer	Not known	Ditto	Ditto.

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

No. 163.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

My Lord,

Bahia, February 13, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to report that the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," which was the subject of Mr. Grattan's despatch to your Lordship on the 15th September last, accompanied by a memorandum furnished to him by the Collector of Customs at Boston, was captured on the 20th ultimo off St. Matthew's by the Imperial Brazilian cruiser "*Olinda*," and brought into this port with 387 Bozal Africans.

It appears the master of this slaver had previously, on the coast of Rio de Janeiro, attempted to effect a landing, but being repulsed by the police, came northward, determined at some point or other to carry out his nefarious resolution, for which purpose, feigning distress, he entered the Port of St. Matthew's, in the Province of Espirito Santo, about six degrees south of this city.

From the vigilance then evinced on the landing of two of her Portuguese passengers, Manoel da Costa Bastos and João José Vianna, who no doubt are interested parties, it soon became clear to them that they were suspected, and an intention existed on the part of the authorities to capture the schooner in port; on which, hurrying on board, she soon stood out to sea, but in the short space of a few hours afterwards was captured by the above-mentioned cruiser.

I never heard or saw a more distressing case of slave-trading than the one the "*Mary E. Smith*" has offered. With a capacity of only 122 tons, 500 human beings were crammed into her on the coast of Africa, of whom 133 had died previous to her capture, and subsequently, until her arrival in this port, 67 Africans expired from exhaustion consequent on starvation and disease, their bodies being eaten into by vermin. Of the remainder landed, 76 have been buried; and of the survivors, 109 are in the hospital suffering from the disease contracted on board. Such is the deplorable result of this inhuman Traffic.

But as a retributive act of justice the master and three seamen are likewise at present in the hospital, dangerously ill from the effects of disease caught from the unfortunate individuals whom they were instrumental in tearing away from their country.

All the ship's papers were fortunately seized at the time the schooner was captured. Her crew is composed of — Cranovich, an Austrian by birth but a citizen of the United States, known well on this coast as having been for many years mate in the Brazilian steam-packet service on the line from Rio de Janeiro to Pará; several American and two Portuguese seamen. The two so-called passengers are residents of Rio de Janeiro, and supposed to be members of an Association formed there some time ago, and in Portugal, for slave-trading purposes.

I regret to add, that from the investigations made on board by the Chief of Police, four more vessels purchased in the United States and belonging to the same Association, are expected with Africans. The first expected is named the "*Mary Stuart*."

I have also been in communication with the President of the Province on this subject, as well for the purpose of obtaining information as to watch the nature of the steps taken to punish the guilty. I have expressed to his Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, my congratulations on the vigilance exercised by the authorities on the coast; but added that, inasmuch as this was the first example of a seizure *in flagrante* of the crew and papers of a slaver by a Brazilian cruiser, since the passing of the Law of the 4th September, 1850, your Lordship will naturally expect the utmost severity of that law to be enforced against the men-stealers, both as a warning to others and in proof of the good faith of the Government. The President then requested me to furnish him with a copy of Mr. Grattan's despatch to your Lordship and of the memorandum attached to it, in order to trace the guilt of the parties, and to serve as circumstantial evidence on their prosecution before the Auditor of Marine, and with that request I did not hesitate in complying.

Although promised by the President copies of the ship's papers and other

documents, to transmit to your Lordship, I have not yet received them, which I shall not delay doing as soon as they come to hand.

I inclose herewith copies of my communications with Her Majesty's Legation at Rio, and add thereto translation of a leading article of one of the journals of this city, as it is characteristic of the reaction experienced during some considerable time past in this city in respect to the African Traffic.

In conclusion, allow me to express the satisfaction I feel that in all the investigations which have taken place at the Police, no individual residing within this Consular district is suspected of having had any dealings in this nefarious case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 1 in No. 163.

Consul Morgan to the President of the Province of Bahia.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and most Excellent Sir,

Bahia, January 31, 1856.

IN conformity with the request made to me this morning by your Excellency, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of the despatch addressed by Her Majesty's Consul at Boston to the Earl of Clarendon, as well of the memorandum furnished by the Collector of that port to Mr. Grattan; all of which relate to the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," lately captured by the Imperial cruiser "*Olinda*," on the heights of St. Matthew's.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 2 in No. 163.

Consul Morgan to Mr. Jerningham, January 30, 1856.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 142.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 163.

Consul Morgan to Mr. Jerningham, February 4, 1856.

[See Inclosure in No. 145.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 163.

Extract from the "Correio Mercantil" of Bahia, February 8, 1856.

(Translation.)

IT had appeared to us that the ambition of some men, to whom the world is too small—after the oft-repeated attacks of the British cruisers in every quarter against vessels employed in the infamous Slave Traffic—was without life, and that their calculations were without effect; which besides the above drawbacks, the efficacy of our laws, the patriotism and good faith of the Government, and the perfect understanding of the Brazilian authorities to maintain the salutary measure of the repression of the Traffic, thereby placing barriers to the thirst for gold on the part of these African Midases; we repeat we had thereby expected to have rendered useless the temerity of the slave-dealers who should yet have pretended to put into execution their damnable intents and malpractices.

But, on the contrary, deceived without doubt by the great promises of profit, an American schooner, with a cargo of Bozal Africans, arrived off our shores, with the intent of flagellating and discrediting us, with the intention of landing them at St. Matthew's. Happily, however, one of our cruisers, the

"Olinda," cruising towards the south, showed to the contrabandist that the Brazilian cruisers understood the orders and intentions of Government, and watch the interests and credit of a nation that knows how to fulfil with dignity the Treaties she has entered into, and to maintain its rights with that circumspection belonging to an enlightened and philanthropic Government, and which by this seizure gave a sure proof of its activity and recognized zeal in the police of our coasts.

The worthy British Consul resident here was already in possession of the projected contraband and unsuccessful speculation, from communications from the Consul of his nation at Boston, from whence the schooner had taken her departure. Hence, therefore, the reason of the frequent visits of Her Britannic Majesty's ships along the coasts of this province, Pernambuco, &c. But notwithstanding this, we say it with pride, it was not necessary for the British cruisers to assist us to capture the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," because the vigilance of the "Olinda" dispensed the action of the authorities where the landing of the Africans was intended; thereby showing it is impossible now-a-days to find amongst us the slightest protection of this infamous Traffic, as nobody would subject himself to its penalties, neither will there be any more impunity offered to the transgressors, even should they elude the vigilance of the cruisers, and effect a landing.

It is, therefore, time that those to whom religion, laws, and humanity are chimerical ideas, should be deceived. The Government of Brazil, conscious of its dignity and its duty, will no longer tolerate in Brazil this Traffic, whatever may be the force of circumstances which demand labour for our agricultural districts, the principal fountain of the riches of nations which possess so blessed a soil as our own, and where nature has opened its treasures for our happiness and independence.

The aim of all Brazilians, and of all true friends of humanity and progress, is directed towards colonisation on a great scale; and if it is not already advanced as it was to be desired, we must blame ourselves, as it is from the apathy or indolence of those who ought to have placed themselves at the head of such a gigantic enterprise, and not to have allowed themselves to be deceived with the criminal labour coming from the coast of Africa (which was received with satisfaction, without counting upon our vital interests), and from whence emanated the horrid cancer that corrupts nations living in the dependence of such a miserable auxiliary, but which only helps them to their degradation and fall.

We have, however, faith in the men who now direct the reins of Government. From them depends our future well-being, and from their patriotism we have much to expect. From such a patriotic and illustrious Government depends our salvation, and the desire to develop the colonisation of Brazil, which is to us the desideratum, in order to favour industry, animate commerce and agriculture, the indispensable elements of the support of Governments, and for the acquirement of the riches of nations.

No. 164.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

My Lord,

Bahia, February 14, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the yearly list of slaves exported to Rio de Janeiro during the past year.

From August to the end of the year, when the cholera was most intense in this province, the exportation was none, but since then it has again commenced. The great demand from Rio de Janeiro, and the high price paid, is an inducement the small proprietor and the needy cannot resist.

The provincial enactment of last year, raising the duty to Rs. 100\$000, or 111. 13s. 4d., is not sufficient to put a stop to this coasting Traffic, that drains the province, which has lately so much suffered by cholera.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 164.

LIST of Slaves exported from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro with Passports.

1855				No.
January	..	..	..	89
February	..	..	..	92
March ..	..	..	..	133
May ..	..	..	..	408
June ..	..	..	..	193
July ..	..	..	..	77
August ..	..	..	..	13
Total				1,005

British Consulate, Bahia, February 14, 1856.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun.,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

N.B. In the month of August last the cholera broke out in Bahia, and few or no slaves were sold for exportation to Rio de Janeiro during the remainder of the year 1855.

No. 165.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 19, 1856.

I HAVE to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have received, with great satisfaction, the intelligence conveyed in your despatch of the 13th ultimo, of the capture, by a Brazilian cruiser, of the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," with 387 slaves on board; and I have further to acquaint you that I approve your proceedings in this matter, as reported in your above-mentioned despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pará*.

No. 166.

Consul Vines to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 4.)

(Extract.)

Pará, February 6, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the annexed Return of slave-grown produce, exported from this province during the year 1854. By a comparison of this return with that for 1853, it will be seen that there has been a considerable decrease during the past year in the value of these exports. In 1853 the value exported was 121,208*l.* (British sterling), while in 1854 it amounted but to 72,911*l.* This great diminution is to be accounted for by the withdrawal of numbers of the slaves from the cultivation of rice and sugar, to that of manioca and other articles for home consumption, and to the advance in wages and great demand for labour in *Pará* having drawn into the city a portion of the slave population for employment in industrial occupations.

The diminution of slavery, which has been steadily progressing in this province for many years, will be advanced by the change in the occupation of the slaves from field-labour to employments in the city, thereby enabling many to work out their freedom.

From the register of manumitted negroes within the limits of the city, I have ascertained that, during the year 1854, 35 have worked out their freedom by paying their owners their full value. This is effected by the proprietors permitting their slaves, after they have received from them the value of a fair day's labour, to retain the surplus of their earnings.

The law regulating the property in slaves not only sanctions but encourages this system of manumission, by obliging the owners to give freedom to the slaves, in exchange for their value, which also is fixed by the law.

I have heard it computed on a rough calculation, by old residents in this province, who have considered the question, that, at the present progress of emancipation, fifty years hence slavery will be well-nigh extinct, yet this may be, no doubt, a too sanguine hope; but certain it is that the material prosperity of this province does not depend on the permanent existence of the institution of Slavery; in proof of this, I have the honour to remark to your Lordship, that while the value of the exports from *Pará* of slave-grown produce in 1853 so far exceeded that of 1854, as previously quoted, the trade returns of last year showed a large increase over those of 1853. The gross value of the exports in 1854 was 662,336*l.*, including 72,911*l.*, the amount of the exported slave-grown produce, against 516,651*l.*, inclusive of 121,208*l.*, the value of the slave-grown produce exported in 1853.

The facilities there exist for exporting slaves by the Brazilian mail-steamers plying semi-monthly between *Rio de Janeiro*, the intermediate ports, and *Pará*, greatly retard the action of the laws promoting the emancipation of slaves; and if this coasting Traffic in Slaves were entirely suppressed, a great boon would be granted to the anti-slavery cause.

Twenty-one slaves are stated to have been exported from this province during 1854, but this may be far short of the actual number, as all sorts of expedients are resorted to to disguise the Traffic, some being shipped as sailors, others as servants to passengers. These exported slaves, I am informed, are generally of the refractory class, whose owners fear losing them by flight; and in all probability they would obtain their freedom, either by purchasing it, or by

escaping to one of the Settlements of the fugitive negroes in this province, if they could not be exported to the southern markets.

The attention of the Provincial Assembly has been again called to the subject; and it is proposed to levy an export duty of 100 milreis (about 11*l.* 5*s.* British sterling) per head, which, no doubt, will have the effect of increasing the revenue, without essentially diminishing the Traffic.

Revolting to humanity as slavery is—as it must be an unavoidable evil for many years to come—it is a relief to know that, in this district, as far as my experience goes, it exists in an ameliorated form; but while commending the general humanity of the Brazilians in the physical treatment of their slaves, the total neglect of their moral culture must be deplored.

From the coast of Africa no vessels have arrived in the Port of Pará during 1854, nor have any sailed thence.

Inclosure in No. 166.

RETURN of the Slave-grown Produce exported from the Port of Pará during the Year 1854, with the value in British sterling.

Description of Produce.	Quantities.				Value.		
	Tons	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Annatto	147	3	0	16	5,794	6	3
Rice	905	12	1	4	12,837	1	7
Rice, in husk	686	5	2	24	6,485	8	0
Cocoa	1,985	0	1	4	43,769	11	7
Tapioca	3	17	2	24	153	0	0
Cotton	55	19	0	0	2,423	12	10
Sugar	73	11	2	24	1,448	14	4
Total value	..	..	..	..	72,911	14	7

No. 167.

Consul Vines to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 14.)

My Lord,

Pará, July 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the particulars of a case of a British subject, Alexander Dickson, an owner of slaves.

Mr. Dickson married a Brazilian in 1849, and, at her death, became possessed of 4 slaves. His first application to me was in last May, when he requested my protection from what he complained to be an unjust and illegal interference on the part of the Judge of Orphans in this city. A copy of Mr. Dickson's protest I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, forming Inclosure No. 1, and from this it appears that his object was to sell his slaves, regardless of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98; but he was prevented from effecting a sale by the Judge of Orphans, who ordered him to deliver up his slaves to his father-in-law, Senhor Lourenço Lucidoro da Motta, as well as his children, the guardianship of whom an order of this Court deprived him of on the petition of his father-in-law; a copy of which petition, with the order of the Judge of Orphans, form Inclosure No. 2.

The complaints Mr. Dickson alleges, in his protest, against his father-in-law are, as far as I have been able to learn, well founded; and it is highly probable that, if the order of the Judge of Orphans to deliver up the slaves to Senhor da Motta (who is the Senior Judge of Orphans) had been carried into effect, the slaves would have been sold.

I beg leave to submit to your Lordship that, in this quarrel between a British subject and a Brazilian which should have the power of selling the slaves, it became my duty to interfere only with a view, if possible, to secure their freedom; and I told Mr. Dickson that I could render him no assistance unless my interference promised to result in the freedom of the slaves, and that, if he would manumit them, I would at once do everything in my power to protect him from arrest and imprisonment, have him reinstated as the guardian of his children, and enable him to return to Europe with them by having the embargo removed which had been placed upon his passage to Lisbon.

Mr. Dickson replied, that he had no means to convey himself and children to Lisbon; that the slaves were all old enough to earn something more than their living; that, according to the Brazilian law, they could not be manumitted during their minority without being placed under the guardianship of one or more respectable persons for that period; and that if he, Mr. Dickson, could obtain the advance of 150*l.* sterling for their services until they were 25 years of age, he would execute a deed which would secure freedom to the slaves.

This statement was substantially correct, both as it regards Mr. Dickson's pecuniary position, and the Brazilian laws regulating the manumission of slaves. It is true that he had the power of selling the land described in his protest, but he said that he could not procure a purchaser, which I have no doubt is the case, for the same difficulty occurs in this country, where the disproportion is so great between the population and the extent of land.

Mr. Dickson then made every effort to find a purchaser for the freedom of the slaves, but ineffectually; and the only means left to accomplish the object in view, was, myself to purchase the freedom of 2 of the slaves, Jacinto and his brother Ildefonso, and to obtain a promise from the mercantile firm of Messrs. Singlehurst and Co., of this city, to purchase the freedom of the slave Lazaro; Mr. Dickson agreeing to leave the young mulatto girl Elena in my charge until she completed her 18th year, unless she were married before then.

I accordingly executed a deed, purchasing the freedom of the slaves Jacinto and Ildefonso, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, forming Inclosure No. 3, on the following conditions:—

That Mr. Dickson should furnish a legal title to the slaves in question; that he should execute a deed constituting the slaves free on their attaining their twenty-fifth year, appointing me their guardian until that period. I, on my part, agreeing, on the receipt of the approval of this transaction by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to compensate Mr. Dickson with the sum of 100*l.* sterling, to feed, clothe, and teach to read and write the 2 boys, Jacinto and Ildefonso, and the girl Elena; to keep them in my service as domestic servants until the boys were 25 years of age, and the girl 18 years, unless she got married before then; and, in the event of my death before the expiration of these periods, to appoint whoever shall succeed me as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, their guardian.

I received from Mr. Dickson deeds of sale, which are drawn up in the legal phraseology of the country, the copies of which form Inclosures Nos. 4 and 5; and to render the agreement binding on his part, and prevent the slaves from being sold, until I had received your Lordship's instructions, it was necessary that these documents should be registered in the Court for the registry of such deeds, and to pay the tax of 4 milreis for the 2 boys, and 2 milreis for the girl Elena, the receipts for which are indorsed on the deeds of sale. This step was necessary, to prevent Mr. Dickson from transferring the property to any one else in the Office for the Registry of Slaves, where these slaves still stand on the books in his own name, and where no transfer can take place without his signature.

I beg your Lordship will pardon me for having made, in my contract with Mr. Dickson, your Lordship's sanction a condition of its fulfilment; and I beg leave most respectfully to submit that it was most advisable to do so, for the Act 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, making it unlawful for any British subject to transfer slaves, excepting where special exceptions are made by the Act itself to the general prohibition, it appeared to me that, although the liberty of these slaves would be effected by a transfer, still, as the law does not explicitly make such an exception, I should not be justified in allowing Mr. Dickson to transfer the slaves and complete the transaction without first obtaining your Lordship's approval.

In an interview with the Acting President of Pará, Dr. Moraes, in which I stated to him Mr. Dickson's case, and urged the propriety of Mr. Dickson being

pronounced out of the jurisdiction of the Court of Orphans, on the ground of himself and his children being British subjects, Dr. Moraes replied that, without the authority of the Imperial Government, he could not treat Mr. Dickson's children as British subjects; that Mr. Dickson having married a Brazilian, and the children being born in Brazil, they were co-heirs to a moiety of their mother's property, and, consequently, under the jurisdiction of the Judges of Orphans; but Dr. Moraes admitted that the division of this property made by the Judge of Orphans was not in accordance with Brazilian law, which gives the slaves to the parent as the personal property, and the land to the children as the real estate, and he agreed with me that the attempt of the Judge of Orphans to deprive Mr. Dickson of the guardianship of his children was unjustifiable, and he promised me that he would instruct the Judge of Orphans to apportion the land described in Mr. Dickson's protest to the children, and the slaves to the father, and reappoint him the guardian of his children. With this arrangement Mr. Dickson expressed himself satisfied.

It is a month since I had this conversation with the President, Dr. Moraes, and no step has yet been taken in fulfilment of his promise to me; and I fear that Mr. Dickson will not be relieved from his present unsettled position until the authorities here are compelled by the Brazilian Government either to declare Mr. Dickson and his children exempt from the jurisdiction of the Court of Orphans, or to carry into effect the promise which Dr. Moraes made to me in reference to the distribution of the property.

Mr. Dickson has placed his children and his slaves under my protection, and they remain with me until I am honoured with your Lordship's instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL VINES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 167.

Note of Protest.

BY this public instrument of protest, hereinafter contained and annexed, be it known and made manifest unto all those whom it doth, may, or shall concern:

That personally appeared before me, Samuel Vines, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Port and Province of Pará, Empire of Brazil, on Monday the 11th day of June, in the year of our Lord, 1855, Alexander Dickson, and solemnly declared and stated as follows:—

That he was a native of London, born at Shoreditch in 1815, the son of Adam Dickson and Mary Anne Stewart Dickson, his wife; that in 1823 he accompanied his parents to Lisbon, and arrived in Pará in January, 1841, and was registered as a British subject on the 22nd April, 1841, as doth appear in Consular Register of this Consulate. Since that period that he, Alexander Dickson, has continued to reside in the Province of Pará, having obtained a ticket of residence from the local police authorities. That during the period of nearly five years he was employed as manager and overseer of sugar estates, after which he embarked on his own account in the manufacture of cigars. That on the 29th of January, 1849, he was married at the parish church of Santa Anna, in the city of Pará, to Antonia Florinda Freira da Motta, second daughter of Lourenço Lucidoro da Motta, according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church; that on the 6th May, 1853, his said wife died, leaving him two children, Miguel, born in December 1849, and Luiz, born in September 1851, and duly registered in the Consular book of registries of British subjects at Pará. That he inherited from his wife property consisting of lands and slaves; the former a lot of land situated on the River Guajara, commencing at the creek Bussutena Miri, and continuing to the creek Laranjeiras, and measuring one Portuguese league up this latter creek; and the latter (the slaves) consisting of three boys and a girl, namely, Jacinto aged 15, Lazaro aged 15, Elena 13, and Ildefonso aged 8 years. That his uncle, James Dickson, a brewer in Lisbon, having invited him to return to Lisbon, and offered to assist him in providing for his children,

he determined to dispose of his property and leave Brazil with them; and being informed that it was necessary, in order to give a title to his property, to file an inventory of it in the Court of the Judge of Orphans, that he the said Alexander Dickson, on the 29th of April, 1854, under oath, declared in the above-named Court, that he was possessed of the afore-mentioned property in land and slaves. That he received a document signed by José Ferreira Cantão, the Acting Judge of Orphans, and dated 4th day of June, 1855, the said document ordering him to deliver up to his father-in-law before-named, Lourenço Lucidoro da Motta, his two children Miguel and Luiz, together with his slaves, the said order purporting to deprive him, Alexander Dickson, of the guardianship of his children, and appointing in his stead his father-in-law above mentioned. This said order also declared that the said Judge of Orphans had placed an embargo on his intended passage to Lisbon, in the Portuguese barque "Oliveira," in which vessel he had engaged a passage for himself and his two children. That through these proceedings he was prevented from leaving Pará in this vessel, being informed by Francisco Fermio Pinto (Escrivão), Clerk of the Court of Orphans, at the time that he served him, the said Alexander Dickson, with the afore-mentioned order of the Judge of Orphans, that if he did not at once deliver up to his father-in-law his children and slaves, that he, the Clerk of the Court of Orphans, held a warrant from the Judge of Orphans to arrest him, Alexander Dickson, and convey him to prison.

That, under these circumstances, he sought protection for himself, his children, and slaves, at the Consulate of Her Britannic Majesty. A certified copy, with translations of the above-named order of the Judge of Orphans, together with the petition of Lourenço Lucidoro da Motta, is hereafter annexed and contained (in the Consular Book of Protests). Now by this his protest, he the said Alexander Dickson solemnly protests against the conduct of José Ferreira Cantão, the Judge of Orphans, in endeavouring to deprive him of the guardianship of his children, without even an alleged cause, in the petition of his father-in-law above named. He also protests against the embargo laid on his passage by the said Judge of Orphans, which detains him in Pará; also against the order for delivering up his property to his father-in-law, and, being a British subject, inheriting the property above-named from his wife, unincumbered by the usual obligations contained in deeds of marriage settlement, for on his marriage no deed of settlement was executed between him and his late wife, and that at which time she was possessed of the before-mentioned property;* that he protests that this property having absolutely reverted to him, he is entirely free from the jurisdiction of the Judge of Orphans in the control or management of this said property.

And he, the said Alexander Dickson, further protests that the order of the Judge, portioning the real estate, the land, to himself, and the personal property (the slaves) to the children, was contrary to the law of Brazil, which declares that orphans shall have a prior claim on the real estate, and that the personal property (if any) should fall to the parent in his share of the division; he also protests that the attempt to deprive him of his children and of his property arose from the desire of his father-in-law, the above-named Lourenço Lucidoro da Motta, who himself is the principal Judge of Orphans, to get possession of the slave property, not with a view to protect the interest of his grand-children, for whom he has never performed one single act for their advancement in the world, but to sell the property, under the pretext of depositing the proceeds of the sale in the Court over which he presides, but in reality to appropriate them to his own use.

In testimony of which he, the said Alexander Dickson, affixes hereunto his name and signature, in the presence of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER DICKSON.

(Signed)

SAMUEL VINES,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

* Sic in orig.

Inclosure 2 in No. 167.

Petition.

(Translation.)

To his Honour the Judge of Orphans.

LOURENCO LUCIDORO DA MOTTA represents to your Honour that Alexander Dickson, widower of his daughter Doña Antonia Florinda Freira da Motta, cannot either take to Lisbon his sons of 5 and 4 years of age, nor can he dispose of their hereditary shares, which consist of 3 slaves and 200 milreis, which I bestowed on his sons, and lastly of a young mulatto girl which his wife freed verbally, on the condition of serving the little boys. And not only that the said Alexander Dickson, being an Englishman, got himself naturalized a Portuguese, and now says he has naturalized his children English, when they are not of age to be able to manifest their own wills, and all this only in order to take away his children, for the sake of selling their property. And as there is no law which authorises him to act thus, I apply to you to order that the said orphans may be placed under my authority (and I promise to bring them up and educate them), and likewise their property, including the girl, who is conditionally free; and for this, issuing the required order to the Chief of Police, as he (Alexander Dickson) leaves this for Lisbon next Sunday the 3rd of June, and for the Police Court to take the necessary steps to stop his passage, until he give up the said orphans and property. And we must not allow that two Brazilians, however poor, should be sacrificed in this manner. The little the children's mother left them, might be a great deal more, if their father had not sold without a just cause.

(Signed)

LOURENCO LUCIDORO DA MOTTA.

Judge's Order.

I suspend the father from the guardianship of his children, and nominate the grandfather to supply his place, under a competent oath, until I properly understand all these matters. I grant the order for the children and property to be delivered up to the same, and the father to answer to what is alleged against him in the petition.

Pará, May 31, 1855.

(Signed)

DR. CANTAO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 167.

*Agreement.**British Consulate, Pará, June 11, 1855.*

KNOW all men by these presents, that I, Samuel Vines, the Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Pará, in the Empire of Brazil, do hereby agree to receive from Alexander Dickson the slaves Jacinto and his brother Ildefonso, which are now standing in his, Alexander Dickson's, name, in the books of the Office for the Registry of Slaves in Pará, to keep them in my service in the employment of domestic servants, until they are 25 years of age; to clothe and feed them, and teach them, or have them taught, to read and write the Portuguese language, and, in a legally executed deed, to leave them, in the event of my death, to the care and protection of my successor in office, until they are 25 years old; and to pay Mr. Alexander Dickson the sum of 100*l.* British sterling, on the following conditions: That Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, approve of this contract; that Mr. Alexander Dickson furnish a legal title to the slaves; that he execute a deed declaring the said slaves Jacinto and Ildefonso, to be free at 25 years of age; and that he, Alexander Dickson, satisfy and perform every

other requirement which the laws of Brazil render necessary to constitute the said slaves, Jacinto and Ildefonso, free citizens of Brazil.

In testimony of which I hereunto affix my name and signature, this eleventh day of June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-five.

(Signed) SAMUEL VINES,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 4 in No. 167.

Declaration.

(Translation.)

I, ALEXANDER DICKSON, a subject of Her Britannic Majesty, declare that I have sold to Mr. Samuel Vines, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, my little mulatto boy, Ildefonso, born the 5th of September, 1847, and his brother the cafuz (signifies a mixture of the Indian and Negro race), Jacinto, born on the 15th of May, 1840, for the sum of 100*l.* sterling, paid, 50*l.* at sight, and 50*l.* on a bill, with the clause of their being free when they complete their twenty-fifth year.

Pará, June 11, 1855.

(Signed) ALEXANDER DICKSON.

Witnesses:

(Signed) FRANCO. JE. LEAL.
ANTONIO BOTELHO DA CUNHA.

Paid 4 milreis, the tax of the slaves Ildefonso and Jacinto, the dues belonging to the current year of 1855 to 1856.

Office of the Collector of Provincial Taxes of Pará,
July 10, 1855.

(Signed) The Clerk,
CARLOS REIS.

(No. 11.)

Paid 500 reis.

Pará, July 10, 1855.

(Signed) SOUZA NAVEGANTES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 167.

Declaration.

(Translation.)

I, ALEXANDER DICKSON, a subject of Her Britannic Majesty, declare that my deceased wife, Antonia Florinda Frieria da Motta, having freed the little mulatto girl, Elena, of 13 years of age, with the obligation of serving my sons until they should attain 12 years, and as I am leaving the Empire with them, I deliver her to the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, Mr. Samuel Vines, to take care of her, keep her in his service and protection until she arrive at 18 years, or be married before then.

Pará, June 11, 1855.

(Signed) ALEXANDER DICKSON.

Witnesses:

(Signed) FRANCO. JE. LEAL.
ANTONIO BOTELHO DA CUNHA.

Paid 2 milreis, the tax of the slave Elena, the dues belonging to the current year of 1855 to 1856.

Office of the Collector of Provincial Taxes of Pará,
July 10, 1855.

(Signed) The Clerk,
CARLOS REIS.

(No. 27.)

Paid 160 reis.

Pará, July 10, 1855.

(Signed) SOUZA NAVEGANTES.

Inclosure 6 in No. 167.

Declaration.

(Translation.)

I, ALEXANDER DICKSON, a subject of Her Britannic Majesty, declare that I have sold to Messrs. Singlehurst, Miller, and Co., my mulatto boy, Lazaro, born the 22nd of June, 1840, for the price of 500 milreis at sight, with the condition to make him free when he completes 25 years of age.

Pará, June 11, 1855.

(Signed)

ALEXANDER DICKSON.

Witnesses :

(Signed)

FRANCO. J. E. LEAL.

ANTONIO BOTELHO DA CUNHA.

No. 168.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vines.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 12, 1855.

I HAVE referred to the proper Law Officer of the Crown your despatch of the 30th of July last, explaining the circumstances under which you considered it expedient to become the purchaser of 3 young slaves, the property of a British subject named Alexander Dickson.

I have to state to you that I believe that the motives which induced you to make this purchase were benevolent and praiseworthy, but inasmuch as the law of England, and especially the statute 6 & 7 Victoria, c. 98, absolutely forbids British subjects to own or hold slaves under any circumstances, and renders their so doing criminal, without regard to their motives or intentions, or even to the ultimate advantage which might accrue therefrom to such slaves, I cannot sanction or approve the arrangement into which you have entered with respect to the slaves in question. Such sanction, even if given by me, would not, as you seem to suppose, legalize the bargain made between you and Mr. Dickson; and I have to acquaint you that I entirely disapprove the course which you have unfortunately taken in this matter, and I have to warn you that a repetition of such an act will not be lightly passed over.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 169.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vines.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 20, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th instant, respecting the slaves registered by the authorities of Pará as being your property, I have to desire that, on receipt of this despatch, you will give up the possession of the 2 boys Jacinto and Ildefonso, and of the girl Elena, who were the slaves of Mr. Alexander Dickson.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 170.

Consul Vines to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 19, 1856.)

My Lord,

Pará, December 1, 1855.

TWO free Africans—Honorio and Laudelino—having been lately imported into this province from Rio de Janeiro by the provisional authorities here, and employed as slaves in the arsenal of this city, I have felt it my duty to call the

attention of Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, the Honourable William Stafford Jerningham, to the circumstance, in a despatch under date of the 29th ultimo, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, together with copies of official announcements in the "Treze de Maio," the Government journal of this city, relating to the above-named Africans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL VINES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 170.

Consul Vines to Mr. Jerningham.

(Extract.)

Pará, November 29, 1855.

FROM official announcements in the Government journal of this city, the "Treze de Maio" of the 13th, 19th, and 27th of November, copies of which I have the honour herewith to inclose, I learned the arrival in Pará of 2 free Africans, named Honorio and Laudelino, in the steamer "Paraná" from Rio de Janeiro.

It appeared to me, although the negroes in question are described as free Africans, that from the orders of the Senhor S. do Rego Barros, President of this Province, to the agent of the Steam-boat Company, to deliver them up to the Inspector of the Arsenal of this city, and to this functionary to keep one of them employed in the Government works there, and to detain the other in safety until the first opportunity of sending him to the President of the adjoining Province, Amazonas, and lastly to this President acquainting him that the latter had been secured for that destination—that they were engaged as forced labourers, either as convicts, or that they belonged to a body of free Africans under the protection of the Imperial Government at Rio de Janeiro.

Knowing the deep interest Her Majesty's Government has always taken in the fate of these unfortunate beings, I felt it my duty to make inquiries about these 2 negroes. I called for this purpose on Senhor Pereira, the Inspector of the Arsenal, on the 22nd of this month; and in reply to my inquiries, he courteously informed me that Honorio and Laudelino, the free Africans mentioned in the Government notice of the 13th of November, were then at work in the arsenal; that they had been sent from Rio de Janeiro on the application from the President of this Province for workmen; that they would not be allowed to leave the arsenal, as they belonged to a large body of free Africans who had been many years at Rio de Janeiro under the surveillance of the Government; and that they received a small weekly payment, besides rations.

I beg leave to submit to you, that the reason assigned by Senhor Limpo de Abreo, Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in his despatch of the 15th July, 1854, addressed to Mr. Howard, Envoy, &c., at Rio de Janeiro, published in the Slave Trade Correspondence of 1854 and 1855, Class B, "that danger or inconvenience would result to public order from letting loose upon the population (in Rio de Janeiro) where so many slaves still exist, a great number of Africans employed in the public service," cannot be applied here in Pará as a reason for detaining two negroes in enforced subjection; nor can his Excellency's argument, "that numbers of free Africans, if not kept in Government employment, might be reduced to slavery by fraud or seduction," be, I think, admissible in this case, among a population where there are so many free blacks; but I regret to say that I feel a strong conviction that the final emancipation of Honorio and Laudelino, is, at least, endangered in their present servitude. I fear that a means might be found to evade the vigilance of the Government, perhaps by reporting these negroes dead or fugitives, and selling them privately, if not in this city elsewhere in this immense province, or the adjoining one, Amazonas, where a high price could readily be obtained for good working hands, and where I am sorry to believe no conscientious scruples, and certainly no fears of detection, would prevent the purchase. So many slaves have died during the last six months of the cholera in these provinces, and there is an increased demand for labour, with a cessation of emigration from Portugal.

Honorio and Laudelino appear to me to be peculiar objects of sympathy, having no fixed period for the termination of their forced labour; they are

guarded and treated with the suspicion of convicted criminals, merely allowed a miserable ration of farinha and 320 reis per day; their condition being infinitely worse than the slaves in Pará, of the same description of labourers, who work in companies, electing from themselves a chief, who receives the aggregate earnings of the men, and after paying their owners the wages according to the market price of labour, has a surplus to divide, which among the provident is accumulated for the price of their freedom; and many instances of manumission so gained annually occur.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL VINES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 170.

Extracts from the "Treze de Maio."

(Translation.)

Tuesday, November 13, 1855.

October 3rd. Government despatch official.—TO the agent of the Steam-Packet Company, telling him to deliver to the Inspector of the Marine Arsenal, or to his order, the free Africans, named Honorio and Laudelino, coming from Rio de Janeiro in the steamer "Paraná." Officially, to the Inspector of the Marine Arsenal, to order him to receive them: the first remaining for the works of the establishment in his charge, and keeping the second, in safety, until he be sent in the first steamer to the disposal of the President of the Province of the Amazonas. Communicated to the Chief of Police of Rio de Janeiro the reception of the said Africans.

Monday, November 19, 1855.

October 15th. Government despatch official.—To the Most Excellent Vice-President of the Province of the Amazonas, acquainting him that there was secured for that province a free African coming from Rio de Janeiro for that destination.

Tuesday, November 27, 1855.

October 27th. Government despatch official.—To the Inspector of the Marine Arsenal, telling him to ensure to the free African, named Honorio, who is in the service of that establishment, the daily wages of 320 reis, as well as a ration of farinha (meal of the mandioca root), the same as that insured to the other two that likewise are there.

No. 171.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vines.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 19, 1856.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th October last, respecting your proceedings in undertaking to assume the guardianship and temporary possession of 3 young slaves who had belonged to Mr. Alexander Dickson, of Pará, I have to desire that you will inform me whether the 3 children in question are now entirely free, and if not, what arrangements have been made with regard to them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 172.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vines.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 24, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of December last, I have to acquaint you that I approve your proceedings as therein reported, with regard to the 2 freed Africans, Honorio and Laudelino, sent by the Brazilian authorities from Rio de Janeiro to be employed as slaves in the arsenal at Pará.

I am &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 173.

Consul Vines to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

Pará, January 1, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 12th and 20th of October last, informing me, in reference to the conditional purchase which I had made of 3 young slaves, Jacinto, Ildefonso, and Elena, to secure the freedom of the boys at the ages of 21 or 25 years, and that of the girl Elena at 18 years, or before, if married, that, as the law of England, and especially the statute 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, absolutely forbids British subjects to own or hold slaves, under any circumstances, without regard to the ultimate advantage which might accrue therefrom to such slaves, that your Lordship cannot sanction the arrangement I had entered into with Mr. Dickson, with respect to the slaves in question, and that your Lordship entirely disapproves of the course I had taken in that matter.

In compliance with your Lordship's instructions to cease to retain possession of those slaves, I delivered them up to the Judge of Orphans of this city, Senhor Maximiano Francisco Duarte, with Mr. Dickson's consent.

I beg leave to thank your Lordship for approving of the motives which induced me to purchase these slaves, and in expressing my regret for the error into which my desire to free these slave children led me, I take the liberty of remarking to your Lordship that I had believed the slaves so bought would have ceased to be slaves, in the legal sense of slavery, for they no longer would have constituted invested or realized property, being untransferable, and they would have been under my control, only, as apprentices, until they had attained the age which, in all countries, it is necessary to arrive at, to obtain a legal recognition of the rights of freemen.

In reference to the girl Elena, I have great satisfaction in informing your Lordship that the course which I had taken in respect to these slaves has resulted in securing her freedom, by virtue of the deed Mr. Dickson executed for me, in her favour, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch to your Lordship of the 30th of July last. In an interview I had with the Judge of Orphans, he admitted with me that Elena could no longer be considered a slave, and that the guardian of Mr. Dickson's children was only entitled to her services until she became 18 years of age, and in the document which he sent to me acknowledging my delivery of the slaves to him, a copy of which forms Inclosure No. 1, the freedom of Elena is recognized.

I have the honour likewise to inclose to your Lordship a number of the "Treze de Maio," with a translation of a notice which I felt it my duty to publish in that journal, forming Inclosure No. 2, to deter others of Her Majesty's subjects from falling into the error I had unfortunately committed in supposing that the Imperial Parliament, by the Act 6 & 7 Vict., did not intend to prohibit the purchase of infant slaves, when the deed of purchase secured their manumission on their attaining their majority.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL VINES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 173.

Declaration.

(Translation.)

I DECLARE that the slaves Jacinto and Ildefonso, as well as the free girl Elena, a minor, were delivered to me, which were in possession of Mr. Alexander Dickson, an English subject, who was the paternal guardian of his two sons, and which slaves were actually possessed by Mr. Samuel Vines, Consul of Her Britannic Majesty of this Province. Those slaves and the free girl were delivered to Lieutenant-Colonel Lourenço Lucidoro da Motta, by the order of the Doctor Judge of the Orphans, for this term, of this capital.

Pará, December 20, 1855.

(Signed)

MAX. JOSE G. FIGUEIRIDO,
Writer for the Court of the Judge of Orphans.

Inclosure 2 in No. 173.

Notice.

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, solicits the attention of the British subjects residing within this Consular district, to the fact that the effort he made to effect the future liberation of slaves by purchase, has been disapproved by Her Majesty's Government; and he feels it his duty to publish this as a caution, lest any British subject should be misled, by this act of his, into the belief that it would be lawful to purchase slaves with a view of setting them free at a future period. The law of Great Britain absolutely forbids British subjects to own or hold slaves, under any circumstances, and renders their doing so criminal, without regard to their motives or intentions, or even to the ultimate advantage which might accrue therefrom to such slaves.

Pará, December 19, 1855.

(Signed)

SAMUEL VINES,
Consul of Her Britannic Majesty.

No. 174.

Consul Vines to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

My Lord,

Pará, January 28, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the annexed Return of slave-grown produce, exported from this Province during the year, ending with the 31st of December, 1855, which shows an increase in the value of the exports of last year over that for 1854, during which period the value was 72,911*l.* against 81,364*l.* for 1855.

No vessel arrived in this port from the coast of Africa during the year 1855, nor has one cleared hence for that destination; one vessel, sailing under the flag of the United States of North America, left Pará for the Azores in ballast, and returned with a cargo of salt.

In reference to the settlements of fugitive slaves in the Amazonian districts, which I had the honour to mention to your Lordship in my annual Slave Trade Report, under date the 28th of January, 1854, as having baffled all attempts of the military authorities here to disturb them, I regret that I am obliged to report to your Lordship that they have recently succeeded in discovering two large encampments at Mucajubá and at the River Trombetas, and in capturing 45 slaves, who were brought to the prison in this city, and delivered to their owners or their heirs.

On the night of the 7th of September last, a detachment of forty soldiers, under the command of a Captain and Lieutenant, left Pará to effect the destruction of the Mocambo (Settlement) of Mucajubá, in the district of Aycaraú, about fourteen miles from this city, it having been reported that the fugitive

negroes encamped there, had attacked the canoes of several planters, and had committed depredations on some of the neighbouring estates. The detachment disembarked secretly, and lay concealed in the woods near to the paths by which the fugitives were supposed to leave their settlements. One negro being captured, was forced to show the best pass by which to enter the lake or swamp on which the encampment of Mucajubá was situated, which occupied several hours in reaching, sometimes wading through water up to the waist, and occasionally being obliged to swim; on arriving at the first house, a discharge of fire-arms from it killed one soldier and wounded some others. The expedition then returned, having captured two negroes, but returned to the locality on the 11th of September, being reinforced by fifty soldiers and four officers, and thirty-two soldiers of the National Guard; with this company they succeeded in reaching the lake, on the banks of which the Settlements are situated, on which they embarked in small canoes, and after twenty-eight days' bush-fighting, they captured 45 fugitive slaves, took twenty-seven canoes belonging to the negroes, and destroyed seventeen houses, many of which are reported to have been substantially built dwellings. These Settlements, for they extended over two or three leagues, had never before been visited, except by fugitive slaves; they consisted of little villages, well inclosed and entrenched, containing a population roughly calculated at between 1,000 and 2,000, having large tracts of land under cultivation with the mandioca plant.

Another detachment of forty soldiers, under the command of a Captain, left Pará to destroy the Quilombo of Trombetas, a famous Settlement, over fifty years old, and which hitherto had been deemed inaccessible to military enterprise, and looked upon by the slave population as a sort of enchanted land. The mouth of the Trombetas is about 450 miles distant from Pará, and its source is said to be close to British Guiana; on the landing of this detachment, a captured negro gave such an account of the difficulties and dangers of the journey to this Settlement, that thirty-three out of forty soldiers, refused to accompany their captain, and he and seven soldiers proceeded in search of it; after nine days' wandering through dense forests, they reached the settlement, which they found deserted and burned by the negroes, who had broken up their ovens and utensils for making farinha of mandioca. About three leagues from the Quilombo of Trombetas exists a tribe of white Indians, of the Uariquena nation, who being on friendly terms with the fugitive slaves, are supposed to have given them notice of the intended attack.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL VINES.

Inclosure in No. 174.

GROSS RETURN of the Exports of Slave-Grown Produce from the Port of Pará, during the Year 1855.

Description of Produce.	Quantity in British Weights.	Value in British Sterling.		
		£	s.	d.
Cocoa	Tons cwt. qrs. lbs. 2,082 15 3 12	58,495	0	0
Rice, in husk	1,684 1 0 0	3,088	0	0
Cleaned Rice	3,086 11 0 0	9,431	0	0
Cotton	36 1 0 0	1,686	0	0
Sugar	1,560 17 1 0	7,548	0	0
Tapioca	75 15 0 0	347	0	0
Coffee	2 8 1 0	20	0	0
Farinha of Mandioca ..	222 9 0 0	679	0	0
Total value ..	.. ..	81,364	0	0

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pernambuco.*

No. 175.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 14.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, April 12, 1855.

I HAVE the satisfaction of once more reporting that no external Slave Trade has taken place within the district of this Consulate, during the quarter ended the 31st March.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 176.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the continued satisfaction of being able to report that no suspicion of foreign Slave Trade has arisen within the district of this Consulate during the quarter ending this day.

No. 177.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, July 13, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a Return of the prices of slaves within the district of this Consulate, for the half-year ending the 30th June last; and your Lordship will observe, by a comparison with those of the former quarter, that their value was rapidly increasing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure in No. 177.

Return of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Pernambuco.

Description.	Quarter ending June 30, 1855.									Quarter ended December 31, 1854.								
	Currency.			Sterling.			Currency.			Sterling.								
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.					
African males . . .	700s	to 800s	80	4	2	to 91	13	4	650s	to 750s	74	9	7	to 85	18	9		
Ditto females . . .	650s	750s	74	9	7	85	18	9	600s	700s	68	15	0	80	4	2		
Creole males . . .	800s	900s	91	13	4	103	2	6	750s	850s	35	18	9	97	7	11		
Ditto, with trades . . .	1,000s	1,500s	114	11	8	171	17	6	800s	1,200s	91	12	4	137	10	0		
Ditto, females . . .	700s	800s	80	4	2	91	13	4	650s	750s	74	9	7	85	18	9		
Infants, sucking, to 5 years . . .	100s	300s	11	9	2	34	7	6	80s	250s	9	3	4	28	12	11		
Children, 5 to 12 years . . .	300s	500s	34	7	6	57	5	10	250s	400s	28	12	11	45	16	8		

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Pernambuco, June 30, 1855.

No. 178.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, July 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a report of the state of Slave Trade and Slavery within this province for the past year.

No foreign Slave Trade has taken place during that period, but the equally immoral internal Traffic has continued in its full force, notwithstanding a most praiseworthy attempt which was made to check it in the Imperial Legislature, by forbidding the removal of slaves from one province to another, unless accompanying the families to which they belonged; but although this measure appears to have failed for the present, I entertain strong hopes of its ultimate success; and indeed it appears to me to be the logical course of proceeding towards the final emancipation of the slave, that the foreign Slave Trade being abolished, the internal should follow; for we have the great example of the United States to prove how futile, as an instrument of freedom, is the abolition of the one, unless accompanied by the other. I am so impressed with this fact, that it is a question in my mind whether the cessation of the African Trade alone be not a positive support of Slavery, if the breeding of slaves be encouraged by leaving the internal Traffic untouched: it is, perhaps, too much to expect at once, that the purchase and sale of slaves shall be entirely prohibited; but if emancipation is not ultimately to be arrived at through revolutionary means, the gradual course would appear to be—

- 1st. The prohibition of the foreign Traffic.
- 2dly. The prohibition of the internal Trade.
- 3rdly. The entire prohibition to buy or sell human beings.

If these three not unreasonable measures could be effected, the emancipation of the slaves would inevitably follow; the first is an accomplished fact—the second is likely to become so; and I am encouraged to hope, from the *bond fide* and loyal manner in which this Government appears to be now performing its engagements, that the third will follow at no distant period.

No perceptible amelioration has taken place in the condition of the slave, notwithstanding the extraordinary increase in the value of this species of property; but I look upon overwork, inadequate food and clothing, as so inseparable from Slavery, that I can merely reassert that those who have not to complain of these evils are exceptions to the general rule; and the same line of

argument will apply to the laws—no new ones have been enacted respecting them. But had it been otherwise, I believe it to be out of the power of the law to protect men whom it recognises as the absolute property of others, and whom it consigns to their irresponsible custody; and this subject leads me to another, respecting which I consider that Her Majesty's Government might beneficially exert its influence, namely, to obtain some relaxation of the existing laws respecting the emancipados or captured Africans. That law, which condemns them to so long a period of service as fourteen years before their natural rights are restored to them, would appear to be sufficiently oppressive. Its avowed object is to procure a fund, through the forced labour of these Africans, which will enable the Government, without cost, to send them back to their native land; but the length of the term of service assigned would lead irresistibly to the conclusion that the Government is not sincere in its declaration; and it appears that the present Minister of Justice insists that when this long period is concluded, the unfortunate African must petition for his freedom, and present a certificate of good conduct from his master. This regulation, although apparently trifling, is an insuperable obstacle to a slave; he is illiterate and simple; he would, perhaps, be unaware of the expiration of his time of service, and if not, what would be the consequence of his announcing to his master that he intended to leave him? in all probability an undeserved bad character, the penalty of which is the House of Correction, preparatory to being sent to a penal Colony; thus leaving to these unfortunate creatures no alternative, and no hope but the slender one of their masters' generosity.

I inclose to your Lordship two statements, one a detail of the population, and the other of the production of the province.

Inclosure 1 in No. 178.

DETAILED STATEMENT of the Population of Pernambuco, distinguishing White from Coloured,
Males from Females, and Free from Slaves.

	Number.	Total.	Grand Total.		
FREE.					
Males.					
White	80,000	265,000	527,000		
Mulatto	165,000				
Black	18,000				
Indian	2,000				
Females.					
White	70,000	262,000		12,500	
Mulatto	170,000				
Black	20,000				
Indian	2,000				
FREED.					
Males.					
Mulatto	2,500	6,200	145,000		
Creole, black	2,600				
African, black	1,100				
Females.					
Mulatto	2,500	6,300			8,950
Creole, black	2,400				
African, black	1,400				
SLAVE.					
Males.					
Mulatto	17,000	80,000		693,450	
Creole, black	45,000				
African, black	18,000				
Females.					
Mulatto	17,000	65,000	8,950		
Creole, black	40,000				
African, black	8,000				
FOREIGNERS.					
Males.					
British	300	5,200			8,950
French	200				
Portuguese	4,000				
Germans	400				
Other Foreigners	300				
Females.					
British	100	3,750	8,950		
French	200				
Germans	200				
Other Foreigners	250				
Portuguese	3,000				

(Signed)
British Consulate, Pernambuco, July 18, 1855.

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul*.

Inclosure 2 in No. 178.

STATEMENT of the entire Production of the Province of Pernambuco, the result of Slave labour, showing its Amount and Value, and the Proportions Consumed or Exported in the Year 1854.

Produce.	Amount exported.	Value.	Amount consumed.	Value.	Total amount.	Total value.
		£		£		£
Cotton	24,983 bags, at 5.400 each	80,000	.. ..	..	24,983 bags	80,000
Sugar	56,000 tons, at 18½	1,008,000	30,000 tons	540,000	86,000 tons	1,548,000
Hides	80,000 at 5½	42,000	30,000	16,500	110,000	58,500
Rum	5,000 pipes at 10½	50,000	5,000 pipes	50,000	10,000 pipes	100,000
Sweetmeats	100,000 lbs. at 6d.	2,500	100,000 lbs.	2,500	200,000 lbs.	5,000
Cocoa nuts, woods, hoofs, &c., &c.	.. ..	20,000	.. ..	..	.. ..	20,000
		1,202,500*		609,000		1,811,500

* Of this amount about 115,000£ worth are exported coastwise, namely:—

About 2,000 bags of cotton	.. ..	£ 7,000
And 6,000 tons of sugar	.. ..	108,000
		£115,000

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Pernambuco.

No. 179.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, October 17, 1855.

I HAVE great satisfaction in reporting to your Lordship that no foreign Slave Trade has taken place upon the coasts of either of the provinces constituting the Consulate during the quarter ended the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 180.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, October 21, 1855.

IT is with extreme regret that I have to announce to your Lordship the renewal of the African Slave Trade upon the coasts of this province.

So early as the month of August last, I received private information that a vessel was expected with slaves from the coast of Africa, which would land her cargo betwixt Cape St. Augustine and Serinhaem, and Her Majesty's ship "Rifleman" being here at the time, I requested Lieutenant Christian to keep a sharp look-out as he cruized in that locality. He was obliged to go to Bahia, to receive the Admiral's orders; but in passing, and repassing upon his return here, he did so without result. No more was heard of the vessel until the inclosed extract from the "Diario" of the 17th instant became public, but it is as yet by no means clear that this is not altogether another slaver.

The details which have reached us are extremely contradictory, notwithstanding that the seizure took place within fifty miles of this port. Neither her name or nation, or the number of slaves which she had on board, are known. The Government has sent down a corvette, with the Commodore on board, which has been absent a week, and strict secrecy appears to be observed respecting her proceedings. Your Lordship cannot fail to observe the extremely suspicious circumstance of the absence of every authority from his post, in spite

of the intelligence above alluded to, and which the Government were in possession of so far back as July last.

Reports of a most disgraceful nature are in circulation, which I shall abstain from repeating, hoping that in my next despatch I may be enabled to transmit the true particulars of this regrettable event.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure in No. 180.

Extract from the "Diario de Pernambuco" of October 17, 1855.

Pernambuco, District of Rio Formoso,

Serinhaem, October 14, 1855.

(Translation.)

A FEW days since there appeared at anchor, near the Island of St. Aleixo, a schooner, and shortly after a report was spread that she had the cholera morbus on board. The day before yesterday, however, it was discovered that she was laden with African slaves, and that she was preparing to disembark them.

The district was at the moment without police authorities equal to provide against so urgent a case; for the Chief Delegate, Antonio Germano Rigueira Pinto de Souza, and both his assistants in office, were absent; the Sub-delegate of the first district, Jozé Veneslão Affonso Rigueira, has been confined to his house for more than two months; Don Theodor M. Freire, the Magistrate, was on leave of absence at Pernambuco; and Don João Baptista Gonsalves Campos had delivered up his authority as Judge of the District to the Magistrate of Barreiros, in consequence of leaving for Pará. In this conjuncture, Colonel Gaspar de Menezes Vasconcellos Drummond assumed the functions of Delegate, from which he had retired on account of sickness in 1849, and commenced taking the necessary steps to apprehend the said schooner and slaves. For this purpose, he obtained the detachment of troops stationed in the district, who reached the spot with incredible rapidity. In the meantime, he had placed an Inspector, with a force of countrymen, at the bar in front of the island, in observation. This done, the Colonel proceeded on board the said schooner, and found 47 men, 105 children of different ages, and 10 women, all African blacks, in the most horrible nudity, and apparent weakness. He not having the means of keeping them in his possession with security, or of sending them to this city, the wind being contrary, he delivered them up to the Military Commander, receiving from the same a competent receipt for their delivery at Rio Formoso. Colonel Menezes is deserving of the highest praise for such an act, as is also Captain Feliz José de Silva, the Military Commander, for his immediate cooperation, thereby saving the honour of the Brazilian Government.—*Private Correspondence.*

From the letter of our correspondent of Serinhaem, copied in a previous column, our readers will notice the apprehension, on the 13th instant, of 162 African blacks by Colonel Gaspar de Menezes Vasconcellos de Drummond, who for this purpose assumed the authority of Delegate of Police, he being one of the largest landholders in that district, and thus saved the honour of Brazil from the suspicion of conniving at the introduction of slaves.

No. 181.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 8.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, November 3, 1855.

I HAD the honour to address your Lordship on the 21st instant, upon the subject of the recommencement of the African Slave Trade upon this coast, and I now proceed to transmit to you the full particulars of this outrageous case, which, I regret to say, has led to a misunderstanding between the Provincial Government and myself.

CLASS B.

2 I

Upon the 5th of July last the President of the Province issued instructions to the Chief of the Police, to desire the police authorities of Serinhaem and Rio Formoso, two populous towns, to be vigilant, as the Government had received information of an intended landing of slaves at or near the mouth of the River Serinhaem, and these instructions were published in the official column of the Government journal.

Notwithstanding this, the same journal of the 17th ultimo announced that the slaver had actually arrived at the very spot designated, that all the police authorities were absent from their posts, and that Colonel Gaspar de Menezes de Drummond, a large landed proprietor of the district, had constituted himself Delegate of the Police (a post which he held in 1849), and had seized 165 blacks, the captain and crew of the slaver having made their escape.

The reports in circulation here were of so disgraceful a nature, that I abstained from more than an allusion to them in my last despatch; but, having since sent an agent to the spot, I regret to say that they have been fully confirmed, and I believe the following account to be essentially true:—

The vessel, which is a small schooner of about 30 tons, arrived at her anchorage, between the Island of St. Aleixo and the embouchure of the Serinhaem, upon the 10th ultimo, having about 250 Africans on board, of whom 30 were women, and the rest boys. The master landed upon St. Aleixo, which belongs to Mr. Donelly, a British subject, but not finding him there, had some communication with the mainland, the particulars of which I have been unable to trace. Of the nine superior police authorities, not one was at his post. Upon the 13th two gentlemen boarded the schooner, and took from her 36 picked blacks; upon the 14th another gentleman went on board and took 40 more from her, and obliged the master and crew to abandon her, under the threat of delivering them up to justice, and nothing has since been heard of them; it is reasonable to suppose that minor thefts were also perpetrated. Be that as it may, 165 only were reported by Colonel Drummond to have been seized, and they were delivered up by him, together with the vessel, to the corvette which the President sent for them, and they now await here the decision of the Government respecting them.

That any of the Africans were delivered up, may be attributed to the large sum which the Brazilian Government pays for captured Africans; and that any were stolen, and thus consigned, with their offspring, to perpetual slavery, to the culpable negligence of the authorities; and the President cannot, in this respect, be held entirely free from blame, for the slaver arrived upon the 10th, and the corvette was not sent away until the 17th, the distance between the two places being about fifty miles.

I deemed the conduct of the police authorities to have been so gross, so opposed to the stipulations of the Convention of the 23rd November, 1826 (the principle of which can never expire, and which, in point of fact, the Brazilian Government has only recently practically adopted), so great an infraction of the laws of Brazil (the Decree of Dom Pedro of 1831, and the Law of 1850,) and, finally, so utterly at variance with the present loyal endeavours of the Imperial Government to abolish Slave Trade, that I addressed a protest against it to the President, which I am satisfied your Lordship will consider worded with moderation.

I regret that his Excellency, in his reply, made that protest a personal matter, and upon that ground refuses me any explanation. He accuses me of want of courtesy, in not having first sought it at a personal interview, but, *ex post facto*, that could have led to no satisfactory result; he refers to the fact of the capture as a proof of the sincerity of his Government, but he forgets that it was made by a private individual, and is, consequently, a convincing proof of the negligence of his subordinates; he does not deny my accusations, but alludes to his duty to his honour, and to that of his country, and these were not called in question. I have endeavoured to explain these points to him, in my despatch of the 31st October.

One result at least has been obtained by my protest; no step had been taken to apprehend the master and crew of the slaver, or the plunderers of their fellow creatures, prior to its receipt upon the 27th, when the Chief of Police was immediately dispatched to Serinhaem, upon, I fear, a now useless errand.

The most regrettable part of the affair is, that the vessel is believed to be only the first of a line which has been established to bring untattooed boys from

Africa, who, when once landed, will thus easily pass for Creoles, and that three more are hourly expected; but although the report appears to be well founded, and I have obtained the name and description of one, I doubt if this miserable, nameless, nationless craft ever came from Africa: she appears to be utterly unsuited for so long a voyage with so large a cargo; she has neither stowage, conveniences for cooking, water, or, indeed, anything else; and I incline to an opinion which obtains, that she received her cargo from some larger vessel in the offing.

I have communicated these facts to Mr. Jerningham, and to Admiral Hope Johnstone, who is hourly expected here; and I trust that my proceedings may meet with your Lordship's approbation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 181.

Consul Cowper to the Governor of the Province of Pernambuco, October 27, 1855.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 118.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 181.

The Governor of the Province of Pernambuco to Consul Cowper.

(Translation.)
Most Illustrious Sir,

*Palace of the Government of Pernambuco,
October 29, 1855.*

I HAVE at hand the despatch you have just addressed to me in the form of a note, stating—

That it appears from the official column of the “*Diario de Pernambuco*” of the 5th of July last, that I being in possession of the fact that it was expected a slaver would land her illicit cargo at the mouth of the River Serinhaem or its neighbourhood, had given, through the *Chefe da Policia*, necessary orders to the local authorities to be watchful, to avoid the infraction of the laws, that notwithstanding it appears by the “*Diario de Pernambuco*” of the 17th instant, that when this slaver did actually appear, not one of those authorities was at his post.

That in consequence of this culpable and inexplicable negligence, according to the information by you received, that of 240 Africans which composed her cargo, 76 had been stolen, and with their posterity reduced to perpetual slavery.

Finally, that far from your desiring to embarrass me, nothing would give you more satisfaction than the certainty that the assertions contained in the “*Diario*,” and the information by you received, were incorrect; but until that was the case you considered it your duty, as the representative of Her Britannic Majesty in this Province, to recall to the memory of this Presidency the obligations contracted between the British Government and that of Brazil in the Convention of the 23rd November, 1826, and protest against the negligence of the authorities above mentioned, as a breach of its stipulations, as an act at variance with the loyal endeavours of the Imperial Government to extinguish the Slave Trade, and as an encouragement to the renewal of that infamous Traffic, so long abandoned in this province.

In reply, I beg to communicate to you, that I consider the question raised by you of such gravity, that I do not judge it convenient to enter upon a diplomatic discussion, which appears to me ought to take place only at the Imperial Court, between Her Britannic Majesty's Minister and the Imperial Government, to whose knowledge I always faithfully communicate all facts which may occur in this Provincial Administration.

I have to add, that your not discerning in the fact of the apprehension of the slaver, or in the official correspondence published in the “*Diario de Pernambuco*,” proofs of the great sincerity with which I desire to fulfil my duty, and thus satisfy the loyal efforts of the Imperial Government; on the contrary, without seeking a personal interview with me on the subject, if only from goodwill, but showing yourself, on the contrary, so much occupied with the

information you have received, and a private letter printed in the "Diario" of the 17th, which I repute crafty, I cannot under these circumstances calculate on the faith of convincing and tranquillizing you, that I judge it would be useless to attempt any explanations of mine, however clear and distinct they might be.

I thus limit myself to stating to you, that without the necessity of being instigated thereto, I flatter myself not to have neglected to this day any part of the duty which I owe to my honour, to the honour of my country, and to my Government.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE BENTO DA CUNHA E FIGUEREDO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 181.

Consul Cowper to the Governor of the Province of Pernambuco.

Most Illustrious and most Excellent Sir, *Pernambuco, October 31, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 29th instant, and regret that you should have made my note so entirely a personal matter; and when your Excellency appeals to your sense of duty, to your honour, and that of your country, I can only reply that they were never called in question.

By a reference to that note, your Excellency will perceive that its protest is confined to those police authorities through whose negligence so many of their fellow-creatures have been consigned to slavery, and as this appeared to me to be an uncontestable fact, I did not conceive that courtesy to your Excellency (in which I trust I have never failed) demanded that I should seek personal explanations, which, *ex post facto*, could have led to no results.

I deeply regret also, that this fact is confirmed in my mind, first by the circumstance of the capture, which was made by a private individual; and secondly, by your Excellency's refusal to afford me any explanation.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 182.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Cowper.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd of November last, reporting that a schooner of 30 tons, with 250 Africans on board, arrived on the 11th of October, at the mouth of the River Serinhaem, in the Province of Pernambuco, and that 85 of these Africans were consigned to slavery. I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with deep regret the attempt thus made to renew this infamous Traffic, and I have to inform you that I approve of your having complained to the President of the province that all the police authorities were absent from their posts when this schooner arrived.

You will use the utmost vigilance in regard to the movements of the slave-dealers, and you will make every exertion to procure information of their intentions, and you will, if necessary, request the President of the province to act vigorously in carrying out the engagements as to the total abolition of the Slave Trade, to which the Brazilian Government stand pledged by the Treaty between Great Britain and Brazil of the 23rd of November, 1826.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 183.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received January 11, 1856.*)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, December 19, 1855.

THE case of the *Serinhaem* slaver still occupies the public mind, and is the chief topic of discussion in the journals; in point of fact its results are of the utmost importance, and the question of the renewal of the African Slave Trade in this Empire depends in a great measure upon the success of the Government prosecutions, for this is a period of great temptation to the slave-trader, and will cause many a wavering *Senhor "de Engenho"* to espouse the cause of slavery. The cholera has carried off a vast quantity of slaves, and as many more are, doubtless, yet to be its victims, there are grounds for apprehending a sensible dearth of labour: men, therefore, turn their thoughts once more to Africa to supply the anticipated deficiency, and unless some such check as a successful result to these State trials is given, in twelve months the coasts of Brazil will be again infested by this class of pirates.

I inclose to your Lordship a translation of the announcement of those who are to be prosecuted:—

1. João José da Faria, the consignor of the vessel, is in Angola, and consequently beyond the reach of the law.

2. Augusto de Mesquita (a false name, although his proper one is known), the master, is in Portugal and safe.

3. Manoel Elia Salgado, a poor boatman, who whilst in charge of the blacks was overpowered by numbers and 46 stolen.

4. Manoel Fidelis de Nascimento, a poor fisherman, who was actually the cause of the capture by betraying the master into Colonel Drummond's hands.

5. Antonio da Silva Pereira, a poor peasant, who helped to capture the vessel.

6 and 7. José Francisco Aceoly Luis and Francisco da Paula Cavalcanti Wanderley, two persons of high station, against whom undoubted proofs of guilt exist. And,

8. Dr. Antonio de Menezes Vasconcellos de Drummond, who captured the vessel, but did not succeed in preventing the escape of the master.

Of these eight, your Lordship will perceive that two are beyond the pale of the law, four were the actual capturers of the vessel, and two only were actually engaged in the robbery.

In addition to these, Antonio Severino de Avelar, a merchant of Rio de Janeiro, has been sent here by the Imperial Government for trial as a principal in this criminal speculation.

No more of the stolen Blacks have been captured, nor is it probable that they will be.

Inclosure in No. 183.

Extract from the "Liberal Pernambucano" of December 1, 1855.

(Translation.)

WE are informed that in the process commenced by the Chief of the Police as "*Auditor da Marinha*," in consequence of the capture of the slaver at the mouth of the *Serinhaem*, and of the robbery of many of the Africans which came in her, the following persons are denounced as having incurred the penalties of "prison and defence," under the 2nd Article of the Law of the 7th of November, 1841: as principals, João José da Faria, who dispatched the vessel from Angola with the Africans, and Augusto de Mesquita, captain of the said barque: and as accomplices, the bargeman, Manoel Elias Salgado, Manoel Fidelis de Nascimento, Antonio da Silva Pereira, José Francisco Aceoly Luis, Francisco da Paula Cavalcanti Wanderley, and Dr. Antonio de Menezes Vasconcellos de Drummond.

No. 184.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord, Pernambuco, January 16, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Return of the prices of slaves in this province, during the half-year ended the 31st December last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure in No. 184.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Pernambuco, during the half-year ending December 31, 1855.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.					
	Reis	Reis	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
African males	700\$000	to 800\$000	80	4	2	to 91	13	4
Ditto females	650\$000	750\$000	74	9	7	85	18	9
Creole males	800\$000	900\$000	91	13	4	103	2	6
Ditto, with trades	1,000\$000	1,500\$000	114	11	8	171	17	6
Ditto females	700\$000	800\$000	80	4	2	91	13	4
Infants, sucking, to 5 years	100\$000	300\$000	11	9	2	34	7	6
Children, 5 to 12 years	300\$000	500\$000	34	7	6	57	5	10

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Pernambuco, December 31, 1855.

No. 185.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord, Pernambuco, January 16, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Quarterly Return of African Trade for the three months ending the 31st December last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 185.

LIST of Vessels which have entered the Port of Pernambuco from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1855.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1855 Oct. 11	Brazilian	Smack.	Noue ..	30	Unknown	Alfredo Mesquito de Waldenkolk	Unknown ..	212 Africans	Angola	Unknown.

British Consulate, Pernambuco, December 31, 1855.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 185.

LIST of Vessels which have sailed from the Port of Pernambuco for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1855.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1855 Nov. 17	Portuguese	Schooner.	Ceres ..	124	9	João Lourenço Sobral	Not known ..	Rum ..	Loanda.
2	Dec. 21	Ditto ..	Brig ..	Portador ..	146	13	José Custodio ..	Ditto . ..	Rum ..	Ditto.

British Consulate, Pernambuco, December 31, 1855.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, Consul.

No. 186.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, January 18, 1856.

THE Serinhaem Slave Trade case appears to be viewed by the Imperial Government in the serious light which it really merits, and I am informed that it has expressed its marked disapprobation of the conduct of the authorities here; it is indeed asserted, that the President of the Province and the Chief of the Police are both dismissed, and only await the arrival of their successors.

The Brazilian squadron has been reinforced by a steamer, and the south coast is so strictly guarded that I have recommended Her Majesty's ship "Express" to cruize to the northward.

The Government prosecution is proceeding, and true bills have been found against the accused; they will therefore be positively tried, but whether before a special Court, or the ordinary Tribunals, I have not yet heard.

A certain amount of mystery still hangs over the whole affair, but the sincerity of the Imperial Government is beyond question; all its orders upon this subject have been of the most peremptory nature, and none more so than its last for the recapture of the remaining stolen Africans. The President has in consequence appointed a Military Delegate for the district of Serinhaem, and I am informed that he made his acceptance of the post contingent upon his being allowed to prosecute his search in secret. He returned to Pernambuco to-day, however, complaining to the President that his plans had been completely nullified by the Chief of the Police, who had caused notices to be attached to all the church doors within the districts, offering three times the value of each African upon his safe delivery to him; this the delegate declares to be equivalent to an advertisement to their holders to conceal them.

There was a report that the captured negroes in the power of the Provincial Government were disappearing, and being reported dead, in a very suspicious manner. Having occasion to visit the President, I questioned him regarding the truth of this statement, and his Excellency assured me that it was without foundation; 4 only had died, and they had landed in a deplorable condition from long-continued dysentery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 187.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, February 14, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a statement of the prices of slaves in the province of Ceará during the past year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure in No. 187.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Vice-Consulate of Ceará, during the half-year ending December 31, 1855.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.			Remarks.
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	
African males	600\$000	700\$000	68	15	0	to 80 4 2
Ditto females	600\$000	700\$000	68	15	0	80 4 2
Creole males	700\$000	800\$000	80	4	2	91 13 4
Ditto, with trades	900\$000	1,000\$000	103	2	6	114 11 8
Ditto, females	700\$000	850\$000	80	4	2	97 7 11
Infants, sucking, to 5 years	200\$000	300\$000	22	18	4	34 7 6
Children, 5 to 12 years	300\$000	600\$000	34	7	6	68 15 0

(Signed) JOHN WILLIAM STUDART, *Vice-Consul.*
British Vice-Consulate, Ceará, December 31, 1855.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio Grande do Sul.*

No. 188.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 14.*)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Return showing the average prices of slaves in this province during the past six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 188.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during the six months ending June 30, 1855.

Classes of Slaves.	Average Prices in six monthly periods to the				Increase in last six months.	Decrease in last six months.	Remarks.
	December 31, 1854.		June 30, 1855.				
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.			
<i>Agricultural.</i>	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Males . . .	700\$000	75 16 8	720\$000	78 0 0	2 3 4		
Females . . .	660\$000	71 10 0	650\$000	70 8 4	---	1 1 8	
<i>Domestic.</i>							
Males . . .	800\$000	86 13 4	810\$000	87 15 0	1 1 8		
Females . . .	740\$000	80 3 4	750\$000	81 5 0	1 1 8		
<i>Mining</i> . . .	None.						
<i>Newly Imported.</i>							
Males . . .	450\$000	48 15 0	} ---	---	---	---	None imported in last six months.
Females . . .	425\$000	46 0 10					

Exchange at 2s. 2d. per milreis.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.**British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1855.*

No. 189.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received September 14.*)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following observations in reference to the state of slavery in this district during the twelvemonthly period ended this day, premising that no authentic information of landings of Bozal negroes within the district, during that period, has reached this Consulate, and that there is reason to believe that no such landings were effected.

The authorities of this province have adopted active means with a view to

prevent any landing of negroes, and have maintained a body of police along the most accessible parts of the coast; these measures have doubtless had the effect of deterring speculators from attempting to renew this vile Traffic.

The number of slaves who have left through this port during the above-mentioned period, has greatly exceeded the number of those who have entered, and there seems to exist much probability that the diminution of slaves from this cause will continue in an increasing ratio.

The prices of slaves have evidently an upward tendency, and many instances have occurred of one conto of reis (108*l.*) being obtained for young male and female slaves; the average prices, meantime, as is shown by the six-monthly returns, do not manifest any considerable rise, but this may be presumed to be due to exceptional and temporary causes, chiefly the high cost of provisions, which has induced many slave-owners to dispose of their superfluous slaves: the reaction which will probably occur, may have the effect of enhancing very rapidly the future prices.

The wages of hired slaves have also increased. Two years since the average rate was about eight dollars for males, and six to seven dollars for females, to be employed in the capacity of domestic servants, whereas the average at present is ten dollars for males and eight for females.

Immigration from Europe has been on an increased scale during the past twelve months, and a new law with regard to the distribution of public lands is calculated to encourage this movement; but until the immigrants are admitted into the general system of labour in the country, and until the inhabitants learn to prefer, *ceteris paribus*, free to slave labour, the advantages which ought to result from this increase of an enlightened population can be but imperfectly developed.

An illustration of this observation is found in the failure of the Colony of British subjects formed in this province under the name "Dom Pedro II." The land upon which the colonists were placed was certainly of inferior quality, and its produce seemingly insufficient to support them, but had they possessed the power of obtaining casual employment, when their necessities called for such aid, they might probably have remained here, and ultimately become useful members of this society; they found, however, that in each occupation they had to struggle against the competition of slave-labour—a hopeless task, as the produce of slave labour can be made in this province to undersell that of free labour, in consequence of the slaves in the country parts receiving through only part of the year constant employment in the cattle establishments, being transferred during the remainder of the year to those fields of industry upon which the immigrant would mainly rely. Under such conditions, as the produce of their farms alone was inadequate to maintain them, these colonists have judged right to depart from this province in search of other lands where slavery does not exist, and where they may find as competitors only those in circumstances on a parity with their own.

During the past twelve months, questions in connection with the kidnapping of persons of colour in the Republic of the Uruguay, with the object of selling such persons as slaves in Brazil, have been brought prominently before the public; it may, therefore, not be unsuitable in this report with brevity to allude to such questions.

Several cases have occurred in which whole families have been seized by Brazilian parties, forcibly carried into this province, and sold as slaves, being usually separated as much as practicable. The facility with which these sales are effected shows very powerfully the inefficiency of the laws enforced in this country to prevent such unjustifiable transactions. One example will suffice to elucidate this fact.

In the early part of the past year, Mathew, a negro residing at Leivas, in the Republic of the Uruguay, Rufina, a negress with whom he cohabited, and four of their children, were forcibly seized by a party headed by Fermiano José de Mello, and brought to this province; two children who were absent at the time of the seizure being left in the Republic. On arriving in this province two of the children were sold at Piratiny, Mathew was disposed of at Cangussú, and Rufina, with the two remaining children, were sold to Laurindo José da Costa, and brought by him to Porto Alegre, with the object, it was presumed, of forwarding them from thence to the Northern Provinces.

Other instances, not less cruel, might be adduced, but I have preferred the

above, as it is authenticated by the President of this Province, in his address on opening the Provincial Assembly on the 2nd October last.

When the possibility of such transactions occurring, and yet more, the facility with which they do take place, is considered, it becomes manifest that the laws acted upon in Brazil are insufficient to protect free persons of colour in the enjoyment of their unalienable rights.

The most obvious mode of supplying the deficiency referred to, appears to exist in the complete registration of all slaves—a service which might be performed through the medium of officers at present existing in the various districts; a severe punishment being imposed on all persons who unduly registered as slaves those who were not legally recognized as such, and the sellers and purchasers of persons not previously registered as slaves being rendered liable to the pains and penalties imposed on persons who act in contravention of the existing laws against the Slave Trade.

The late President of this Province (Senhor Causausão de Sinimbu), appears to have been sensible of the advisableness and urgency of the enactment of a law providing for the registry of slaves; but the retirement of that gentleman, and the divisions prevalent in the Provincial Assembly, may for the moment have retarded a measure so desirable.

This question may be regarded in a different and not less important view. It is evident that whilst it is not only practicable, but easy, to transfer as slaves the free subjects of an adjoining State, who are ignorant of the Portuguese language, the facilities for such transactions, in the case of negroes illegitimately brought from the coast of Africa, especially of those who have acquired the national idiom, must be infinitely more prevalent. Transfers of the latter do therefore continually take place; the laws of Brazil are proved inefficacious; and a large body of persons in this country learn to despise these laws, to enter upon a course of criminal speculations, and, ceasing to be good men, lose by the same acts their attributes as loyal subjects. Such men doubtlessly only want the opportunity to extend the sphere of their actions; and finding they can set at naught the laws which prohibit the retention in slavery of persons not recognized as slaves, they will manifestly be as ready, should the occasion present itself, to contravene the laws affecting the introduction of negroes from Africa. In such cases it may be doubted whether it would not be preferable to omit legislation than to pass laws which in their obvious and declared intention are suffered to remain without force.

It appears a necessary condition in the passing of these anti-slavery laws, calculated as they are to effect a great moral and social improvement in this nation, that all measures required for their complete development should be sanctioned and supported by those in authority; such laws becoming then, in lieu of a declaration of opinion on the part of the Brazilian Government, a real engine for the raising of the social condition of the people—an irresistible guide in the right path to the masses of the population.

Among measures thus required, certainly not the least important will be a law for the registration of all slaves throughout the Empire.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio de Janeiro.*

No. 190.*Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)*

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that during the quarter ending this day no arrivals have been reported from the coast of Africa; and that the departures for Africa during the same period consisted of two Portuguese vessels as set forth in the inclosed list.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 190.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1855.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.
1855 May 2	Brig	Progreso ..	J. F. da Costa Roxo ..	Portuguese ..	243	14	Loanda and Benguela ..	Sundries.
June 1	Ditto	Oceano ..	F. J. Mendonça ..	Ditto ..	179	11	Loanda	150 pipes of brandy.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

No. 191.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, in accordance with the instructions contained in Viscount Palmerston's Circular dated the 4th of October, 1850, a Return showing the price of slaves in this province during the last six months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 191.

PAPER showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, during the half-year ending June 30, 1855, as far as can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves.						Price of Slaves as per last Return, in Sterling.				Remarks.		
	In currency.		In sterling.										
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
<i>Agricultural.</i>													
Males	1,000\$	to 1,200\$	116	13	4	to 140	0	0	116	13	4	to 140 0 0	No material alteration has taken place in the price of slaves since last Return.
Females	800\$	1,000\$	93	6	8	116	13	4	93	6	8	116 13 4	
<i>Mining.</i>													
Males	} About the same as Agricultural.												
Females													
<i>Domestic.</i>													
Males	1,000\$	1,500\$	116	13	4	175	0	0	116	13	4	175 0 0	
Females	1,000\$	1,400\$	116	13	4	163	6	8	116	13	4	163 6 8	
<i>Newly Imported.</i>													
Males	} None imported during the last six months.												
Females													

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

Rio de Janeiro, July 2, 1855.

No. 192.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, a Return of the vessels that are reported to have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the quarter ending on the 30th ultimo, and a list of the sailings for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 192.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1855.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.
1855 September 9	Brig ..	Intrepido ..	A. F. dos Dorez ..	Portuguese ..	211	11	Porto Novo and Bahia	Days. 11 from Bahia	Oil.
" 12	Ditto ..	Oceano ..	F. J. de Mendonça ..	Ditto ..	139	12	Loanda ..	29	Oil and Mats.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 192.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1855.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.
1855 August 12	Brig ..	Corina ..	M. B. Caza Nova ..	Sardinian ..	232	10	Coast of Africa ..	Sundries.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

No. 193.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

My Lord,*

Rio de Janeiro, January 22, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that during the quarter ending on the 31st ultimo, no vessels were reported to have arrived in this port from the coast of Africa; and I beg leave to inclose a List of the vessels that sailed for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 193.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1855.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.
1855								
October 1	Brig ..	Delphin .	A. R. Valente ..	Portuguese .	188	12	Angola ..	Sundries. ..
" 1	Brigantine ..	Maria ..	M. Roiz Alves .	Ditto ..	299	10	Loanda ..	Ditto. ..
" 3	Brig ..	Oceano ..	F. J. Mendonça .	Ditto ..	179	12	Ditto .	Ditto. ..

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

No. 194.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

(No. 2.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 22, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a Return showing the prices of slaves in this province during the six months ending on the 31st ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 194.

PAPER showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, during the half-year ending December 31, 1855, as far as can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves.						Price of Slaves as per last Return, in Sterling.						Remarks.		
	In Currency.		In Sterling.												
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Few sales or transfers have lately taken place, owing to the ravages of cholera.
<i>Agricultural.</i>															
Males	1,000\$	to 1,400\$	112	10	0	to 157	10	0	116	13	4	to 140	0	0	
Females	800\$	1,100\$	90	0	0	123	15	0	93	6	8	116	13	4	
<i>Mining.</i>															
Males	} About the same as Agricultural.														
Females															
<i>Domestic.</i>															
Males	1,000\$	1,600\$	112	10	0	180	0	0	116	13	4	175	0	0	
Females	1,000\$	1,400\$	112	10	0	157	10	0	116	13	4	163	6	8	
<i>Newly Imported.</i>															
Males	} None imported during the last six months.														
Females															

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul.**Rio de Janeiro, January 22, 1856.*

No. 195.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 22, 1856.

I HAVE much satisfaction in reporting to your Lordship that, from the best information I have been able to obtain, no slaves were landed in this province during the year 1855.

Towards the close of the year different reports were in circulation that slaves had been landed both to the northward and southward of this port, but on strict inquiry it appeared that such reports were incorrect. It is, however, certain that of late there has been a strong desire on the part of slave-dealers to recommence

the Trade, but up to the present time they have been deterred from embarking in such nefarious transactions by the stringent measures which the Imperial Government continue to employ to prevent the reappearance of the Traffic.

I transmit, inclosed, for your Lordship's information, a Return showing the quantity and value of the staple productions (the result of slave labour) exported during the past year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure in No. 195.

STATEMENT of the Amount and Value of Exports of Staple Productions from Rio de Janeiro, the result of Slave Labour, during the year 1855.

Description of Produce.	Quantity.	Sterling value, including Shipping Charges and Duties.			Total.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coffee	2,409,543 bags	7,214,771	0	0			
Sugar	8,200 cases	126,843	0	0			
Rosewood, . . .	19,398 planks	87,180	0	0	7,378,794	0	0
The value of other articles of produce, such as Hides, Horns, Rice, Tapioca, Rum, Tobacco, Ipecacuanha, &c., exported during 1855, may be estimated at					300,000	0	0
Total value of produce shipped during 1855					7,678,794	0	0

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul*.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*St. Catherine's.*

No. 196.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 10, 1856.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, December 31, 1855.

I HAVE the satisfaction to report that, to the best of my knowledge, no slaves have been imported direct from Africa into this province, and no vessel has been fitted out in this province for the Slave Trade, during the past year.

The number of slaves exported to Rio de Janeiro during the year, by the police returns, amounts to 103; though I am informed that several have been sent back, on account of the risk from the epidemic prevailing there. Prices continue very high and arbitrary, on account of the great demand.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RANDAL CALLANDER.

FRANCE.

No. 197.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1855.

IN accordance with the agreement which was entered into between the Governments of Great Britain and France in the year 1848 to communicate to each other, at the conclusion of each year, a return of the vessels captured by their respective squadrons employed on the West Coast of Africa in the suppression of the Slave Trade under the Convention of 1845, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for communication to the French Government, Returns drawn up in the form agreed upon, of the captures made by Her Majesty's squadron during the year 1854.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 197.

RETURN OF VESSELS captured on the ground of Slave Trade or Piracy, by the British Squadron employed on the West Coast of Africa, under the Convention of the 29th of May, 1845, between Great Britain and France, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, during the year ending December 31, 1854.

Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of Master and Owners of Captured Vessels.	No. of Crew.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured.	Name and Rank of Captor, and Name of Capturing Ship.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Emancipated.	Tonnage of Captured Vessel.	Before what Court adjudicated, and on what Charge.	Decretal part of Sentence, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	How Captured Vessel was disposed of.	Remarks.
Brigantine, name unknown	No colours .	Unknown	---	1854	Lat. Long.	Commander S. S. L.				Unknown	St. Helena, having slave-fittings on board	Forfeiture	Destroyed by fire	Length 85 ft., breadth 21 ft., depth 14 ft. Formerly American.
Millaudon, barque .	Ditto .	Carlos Caballier, master and owner	10	Jan. 29	Pirate's Creek, River Congo	Commander "Alecto"	None	None		203	Ditto .	Ditto .	Broken up .	
Manuella, schooner .	Ditto .	Unknown	10	Apr. 30	Cabinda .	Commander H. Need, "Linnæus"	Ditto	Ditto		116	Sierra Leone, ditto .	Ditto .	Ditto .	
Mercedeta, schooner .	Spanish .	Ditto .	---	May 23	Rio Pongas .	Commander R. MacDonald, "Ferret"	Ditto	Ditto		135	Ditto .	Unknown at present	Run on shore off Lagos	Ditto.
Launch, name unknown .	No colours .	Ditto .	15	Aug. 25	Benin River .	Commander Thomas Miller, "Crane"	Ditto	Ditto		26	St. Helena, ditto .	Ditto .	Destroyed .	
Ditto	Ditto .	Ditto .	9	Aug. 25	Shark's Point, River Congo	Commander J. Mc D. Skene, "Philomel"	Ditto	Ditto		24	Ditto .	Ditto .	Destroyed .	
Newport, brigantine .	British .	C. P. Hocquard, master Messrs. F. and P. Le Sueur, owners	7	Aug. 27	Ditto .	Ditto .	Ditto	Ditto		105	Ditto .	Ditto .	At present unknown .	
				Sept. 21	7° 42' S. 12° 48' E.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto						

No. 198.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 12, 1856.

IN accordance with the agreement which was entered into between the Governments of Great Britain and France in the year 1848, to communicate to each other at the conclusion of each year, a Return of the vessels captured by their respective squadrons employed on the West Coast of Africa in the suppression of the Slave Trade under the Convention of 1845, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for communication to the French Government, a Return, drawn up in the form agreed upon, of the captures made by Her Majesty's squadron during the year 1855.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 198.

RETURN OF VESSELS CAPTURED ON THE GROUND OF SLAVE TRADE OR PRIZE, BY THE BRITISH SQUADRON EMPLOYED ON THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA, UNDER THE CONVENTION OF THE 20th MAY, 1845, BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE, FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE TRADE, DURING THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1855.

Name and Description of Captured Vessel.	Flag under which Captured Vessel was sailing.	Names of the Master and Owners of Captured Vessel.	No. of Crew.	Date of Seizure.	Where captured.	Name and Rank of Captor, and Name of the Capturing Ship.	Number of Slaves captured.	Number died before adjudication.	Total number Emancipated.	Tonnage of Captured Vessel.	Before what Court adjudicated, and on what charge.	Disposal, whether Forfeiture or Restitution.	How Captured Vessel was disposed of.
Brig, name unknown	No colours.	Unknown	None	1855 June 19	Rio Pongus	Commander C. T. Leekie, "Ferret"	...	...	...	222	Sierra Leone, having an illicit cargo on board	Forfeiture	Broken up.
Fernando Po, barque	Spanish	Torrens, master; Vidal and Ribas, owners	14	Aug. 3	Acera	Lieutenant-Commander E. Webber, "Dolphin" Lieutenant-Commander R. H. Roe, "Minx"	...	...	...	230	Ditto	Restitution	Delivered over to the master.
Coloured vessel, name unknown	No colours.	Unknown	None	Oct. 19	Off Cabinda	Commander W. H. Haswell, "Plumper"	90	At present Unknown	Length . . . 42 ft. Breadth . . . 14 ft. Depth of hold 7 ft.	St. Helena, Having slaves on board	No information as yet received	Destroyed by fire.	

(Signed) JOHN ADAMS, *Commodore.*

No. 199.

Lord Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 23.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 22, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a note which I have received from Count Walewski, thanking me for the Return of the vessels captured during the year 1855, by Her Majesty's squadron employed on the West Coast of Africa in the suppression of the Slave Trade, which I had transmitted to him as instructed by your Lordship in your despatch of the 12th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

Inclosure in No. 199.

Count Walewski to Lord Cowley.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Paris, le 21 Février, 1856.

J'AI reçu, avec la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 14 de ce mois, le tableau des prises faites dans le courant de l'année 1855 par les navires de Sa Majesté Britannique employés à la répression de la Traite des Noirs sur la Côte Occidentale d'Afrique, et je m'empresse de la remercier de cette communication.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

MEXICO.

No. 200.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 5.)

(Extract.)

Mexico, March 4, 1855.

IN my despatch of the 7th ultimo* I had the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, the copy of a note which I had received from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, informing me that the privilege granted to the houses of Goicouria and Zangronis of the Havana had been revoked, as far as allowing them to contract such Indians in Yucatan as had been made prisoners in the war of castes now raging in that peninsula, and that henceforward they could only contract free Indians to work in the Island of Cuba.

I regret now to be obliged to inform your Lordship, that an agent for those houses, of the name of Don José Temes, has within the last few days made a fresh arrangement with this Government.

Upon this report reaching me, I immediately called upon Señor Bonilla and asked him whether there was any truth in it.

He said that the agent in question had requested leave to contract the wild Indians on the northern frontier, which had been immediately granted, and further, that the Government had been asked whether they would set at liberty such Indians as were condemned to punishment in Yucatan, if they volunteered to leave the country, and that the Government had also acceded to this request.

I recalled to his Excellency's mind what had taken place already with regard to the Indian prisoners, and that it was evident that the request to contract Apaches and other wild Indians, was too hollow to be entertained for a moment, and was a mere blind to cover their real schemes, namely, of again getting possession of the unfortunate Indians of Yucatan; and that I regretted most sincerely that the humane disposition taken a few days since by his Serene Highness should have been revoked in such a manner: but that at any rate I trusted he would revoke the permission given by the late Governor of Yucatan to embark Indians at Rio Lagartos, and that no contracts should be made except at Merida, or embarkation allowed except under the control of the Mexican authorities.

His Excellency promised to give orders in accordance with my desires, but he added that the Government had agreed to the request about the prisoners, because it was an advantage to get them out of the country, and it was also an advantage to the prisoners themselves; for which reasons, the Government did not feel authorized to refuse the request made to them.

I have addressed a note to his Excellency on this subject, which I will forward to your Lordship whenever I receive his Excellency's answer.

I shall send this despatch under flying seal to Consul-General Crawford in the Havana, so that he may know what has taken place, and inform the Captain-General of the class of colonists likely to be furnished him from this country.

P.S.—I inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 271.

answer I addressed to his Excellency Señor Bonilla, in reply to his note of the 6th ultimo, a copy of which was transmitted in my despatch of the 7th ultimo.

Inclosure in No. 200.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, February 9, 1855.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, has had the honour to receive the note of his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla of the 6th instant, informing him that his Serene Highness the President has directed the present Governor of the State of Yucatan to make a report upon all the several points contained in the two notes of the Undersigned dated the 20th ultimo, with respect to the question of the contracts to be made with the Indians of that Peninsula to go as colonists to the Island of Cuba; and his Excellency says that this measure has been adopted by the Supreme Government, as it is resolved to clear up everything which has taken place with respect to this business, and issue such orders as it may still consider necessary. His Excellency also states that his Serene Highness, as a further proof of the interest he takes in the welfare of his fellow-citizens, had revoked the permission he had given to the houses of Goicouria and Zangronis to hire for a term of years such Indians as had been made prisoners in the war of castes now raging in Yucatan, for fear that by any means abuses should be committed against those unfortunate creatures; and his Excellency adds that, if the Governor of Yucatan had allowed any Indian prisoners to be sent to the Island of Cuba, it was because the order revoking the grant, which was dated the 2nd of last December, and which was forwarded through the Department of Foreign Affairs, had not yet reached him.

The Undersigned begs to inform his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla that it will afford him the sincerest pleasure to communicate this fact to Her Majesty's Government, proving, as it will, the determination of his Serene Highness to continue to take every measure which will prevent the possibility of the Mexican Government or nation being mixed up in any way in so nefarious a Traffic as that of selling their fellow-citizens.

His Excellency also forwards to the Undersigned the copy of an official document drawn up by the Mexican Consul in the Havana, by which it appears that the Indian prisoners, on their arrival at the Havana, had declared to him that they had gone there of their own free will, and had refused to be taken back to Yucatan; from all of which his Excellency states he feels certain the Undersigned will perceive that none of the Yucatan Indians have been reduced to a state of slavery, nor the Treaty between Great Britain and Mexico infringed.

The Undersigned will not enter into any discussion with respect to the contents of this document, so entirely opposed to the terms of the petition they addressed to Governor Cardenas, when they were about to be sent to the Havana; but knowing, as the Undersigned does, the constant efforts for a series of years which had been made by his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla even when he did not occupy his present post, to prevent anything in the shape of slavery being carried on, either in the Mexican territory or under its flag, the Undersigned feels certain that his Excellency will admit that, in making the complaint he did against Governor Cardenas and Colonel Jimenez, the Undersigned did no more than his duty, both towards the Government of this country as well as towards that of Her Britannic Majesty; inasmuch as, having been made acquainted by his Excellency Señor Bonilla with the precise nature of the orders given by his Serene Highness the President for the protection of the Indian prisoners, he found those orders deliberately broken through by Señor Cardenas, as was proved by the answer given by him to the petition of the Indian prisoners above alluded to, which was inclosed in the note of the Undersigned of the 20th ultimo, as in that answer Señor Cardenas clearly stated that he would not listen to their petition because they were prisoners of war, whereas the orders of his Serene Highness the President were, that those very prisoners were to be allowed to exercise their free will in going to the Island of Cuba or remaining in Yucatan.

It was, therefore, with the desire of proving to the Supreme Government the manner in which Señor Cardenas was deliberately breaking through its orders for the protection of its citizens, and, as the Undersigned has before observed, also the Constitution of the country, as well as, virtually, the Treaty with Great Britain, that he brought this conduct of Señor Cardenas before the attention of his Excellency Señor Bonilla, and the Undersigned learns with pleasure that the Supreme Government have determined to have it properly examined into.

Before closing this note he will also assure his Excellency that, having communicated the nature of the orders given by the Supreme Government to the British Consular Agent in Merida, the Undersigned feels assured that, in taking the measures he did, he only acted as he considered the Mexican Government would have wished him to do, as he felt certain it would wish him to leave no means untried to prevent orders from being disobeyed in a matter of such interest to the honour of this Republic.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

P. W. DOYLE.

No. 201.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 18, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch to you of the 29th of September,* 1854, respecting the prejudicial effect which the Spanish Decrees of March 22, 1854, are likely to have upon the interests of the Yucatan immigrants into Cuba, I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to him on the 12th ultimo by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating the reasons why the Spanish Government cannot consent to the request which was addressed to them by Her Majesty's Government through Lord Howden, that certain modifications should be introduced into the Royal Decrees in question.

And I have to observe to you that this decision of the Spanish Government will render increased vigilance necessary on the part of British functionaries respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 202.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 2.)

(Extract.)

Mexico, April 2, 1855.

IN my despatch of the 4th ultimo, I had the honour to state to your Lordship that the grants for shipping Indian prisoners from Yucatan to the Island of Cuba, which had been revoked by this Government, were again in force, and that I would forward by the present packet a copy of the note I had addressed on this subject to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, as well as such further correspondence as might take place on this matter.

I have now the honour to forward it herewith, and your Lordship will find that the same abuses with respect to those unfortunate Yucatan Indians can be again committed, as the cloak with which the agents have endeavoured to cover their design, by offering to contract the wild Apaches and Comanches, is too absurd even to be believed for a moment by Señor Bonilla.

I have told his Excellency that I consider by the present arrangement that the position of the Indians is worse than before, but that at any rate I trusted the permission granted to embark Indians from Rio Lagartos would be withdrawn, and that no contracts would be allowed to be drawn up, except in the presence of the Indians, and before the competent Mexican authorities.

Your Lordship will perceive that I have obtained those two points.

I have not felt authorized to do more, as openly the Indians are to be allowed to exercise their free will as to whether they will go or not as labourers to the Island of Cuba.

Señor Bonilla told me he had spoken strongly on this subject to General Ampudia, lately appointed Governor-in-chief of Yucatan, and that he had great confidence in the measures he would take to prevent abuses being committed.

Inclosure 1 in No. 202.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

National Palace, Mexico, March 8, 1855.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has received his Excellency Percy W. Doyle's note of the 1st instant, in which he requests to be informed if what is said is true—that the house of Zangronis has solicited the repeal of the revocation of the permission which was granted to them to ship to Cuba the indigenous prisoners of Yucatan, and that they may be allowed to contract the Indians of other tribes in the Republic for the same object.

The Undersigned hastens to answer the said note, to assure his Excellency Mr. Doyle that his Serene Highness the General President's resolution of the 2nd of last December, revoking the permission granted to the house of Zangronis to ship to Cuba the indigenous prisoners of Yucatan has not been repealed, and that the said permission is therefore without effect.

The concession made on the 23rd ultimo to that house, is, that upon the same condition stipulated in the grant made to Don Tito Vecino, as agent of Messrs. Goicouria Brothers, and with which his Excellency Mr. Doyle is already acquainted, they may freely contract as field labourers those persons who, of their own spontaneous will, and without any kind of compulsion, may be content to work for them; and that should any of those persons who are made prisoners in the war which is being carried on against the rebellious Indians of Yucatan, be disposed to enter into the same kind of service, the punishment to which they may have been condemned will be remitted, on condition of their absenting themselves from that department for at least five years, during which time they will work out the contract freely made by them, according to the several articles of the above-mentioned grant made to Vecino.

Subject to similar conditions, permission was given by his Serene Highness, on the 22nd of last month, to Messrs. Zangronis Brothers and Co., merchants, of the Havana, to contract, by means of their agents, the Indians of other tribes belonging to this Republic on the northern frontiers, with the view of shipping them to the Isle of Pines, Porto Rico, St. Thomas, or the Island of Cuba, where they will be engaged in domestic service, or in the fields, workshops, roads, or factories; the said contracts being entirely free on the part of the Indians, the term of service not to exceed five years, and the contracts celebrated with the knowledge and intervention of the authorities of the Republic.

The contractors, moreover, bind themselves to inculcate social and moral feelings upon the Indians, and to instruct them in the Catholic religion, in order that they may return to their country, when their time is up, with good habits, and a proper knowledge of the trade to which they have been devoted.

Having, with the above statements, complied with the wish of his Excellency Mr. Doyle, the Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 202.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, March 10, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to receive the note of his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla of the 8th instant, in answer to that which the Undersigned had addressed to his Excellency on the 1st instant,

inquiring whether the report which had reached him was true, that the permission which had formerly been given to the houses of Goicouria and Zangronis had been again renewed, enabling them to contract for their use such Indians as had been made prisoners in the war of castes now raging in Yucatan, and who were willing to go the Island of Cuba.

His Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla in his present note informs the Undersigned that the Decree given by his Serene Highness the President on the 2nd of last December, withdrawing that permission, has not yet been revoked, inasmuch as what has been now granted to the houses in question on the 23rd of last month is, that they may contract all such persons as are willing to go to the Island of Cuba; and if any Indians who had been made prisoners in the war now raging in Yucatan were willing to go to that island, they were to be allowed to do so under the express condition that they were to remain absent from their country for a term of not less than five years.

His Excellency also explains to the Undersigned the terms of the recent grants made with respect to contracting the Indians of the other tribes resident in the Republic.

With respect to them the Undersigned will make no remark, because he feels perfectly convinced that not only not a single contract will ever be signed, or even attempted to be signed, with the wild Apaches, or Comanches, or any other of those tribes; and he will add, moreover, that in making such a proposition to this Government, the agents in question never had the slightest intention of making such an attempt, their object being clearly to revert to their old plan of getting hold of the Yucatan Indians, and which they could no longer do in consequence of the Decree issued by his Serene Highness on the 2nd of last December.

The Undersigned has now before him the note of his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla of the 6th of last month, a copy of which was forwarded to Her Majesty's Government, in which his Excellency states that his Serene Highness the President, as a fresh proof of his benevolent desire to watch over the welfare of his fellow-countrymen, had, in accordance with this principle, revoked the permission granted to the houses of Goicouria and Zangronis to contract the Indians made prisoners in the war of castes raging still in Yucatan, because his Serene Highness would not permit that there should exist even the slightest appearance of their being reduced to a state resembling that of slavery; and the Undersigned has also before him the communication published in the official journal of the Government, addressed, on this subject, by the Minister of the Interior to the Minister of War, in which his Excellency, after repeating that the grant in question had been revoked by his Serene Highness the President, because he was both determined to do away with every suspicion that these unfortunate Indians might even be considered to be kept in a state of slavery, and, more than all, to shut the door to the susceptibility of the anarchists, and to do away with all pretexts for throwing discredit on the Supreme Government and ruining it in the public opinion, which the Supreme Government should do at all cost, his Excellency states that the permission above referred to had been revoked, and he calls upon the Minister of War not only to communicate that fact to the Governor of the State of Yucatan, but also to direct the Governor of Lower California to prepare a penal establishment where the Indians should work out their time, after which they should be put entirely at liberty.

In presence of these two documents, and of the correspondence which has already passed on this subject, the Undersigned is constrained to say that he cannot but consider that the order given by his Serene Highness the President on the 2nd of last December has not only been entirely revoked, but the position of the Indians has been rendered more precarious: first, because formerly the contracts they were supposed to sign were to be valid for from one to two years, if possible, but in no case to exceed five years, whereas at present it appears from his Excellency's statement that they are not to be made for a less term than five years; and it is evident, with the disposition so clearly evinced by the contractors, those documents may be drawn up in such a manner as to render impossible the return of the Indians to their own country, reducing them by that means virtually to a state of slavery; and secondly, because one of the points most dwelt upon by his Excellency Senhor Bonilla was, that the Supreme Government never would sanction anything like selling to a foreign commercial house their fellow-citizens, and therefore the

strictest orders had been given to the Governor of Yucatan to leave it to the free will of the Indians either to go to the Island of Cuba or to work out their sentence in Yucatan.

The object of the order of the 2nd of December, with the view above stated, was no longer to allow any Indian prisoners to go to Cuba, but to send them to Lower California, where, after a certain time, they were to be allowed to establish themselves as citizens.

From the present moment it is again in the power of the agents of the houses of Zangronis and Goicouria to carry into effect their former plan.

The Undersigned is well aware that the Supreme Government of this country would not sanction the Slave Trade to be carried into execution upon the persons of their fellow-citizens, but he has no hesitation in saying that the agents of the houses in question would use every means in their power to force the Indians to go to the Island of Cuba, and the late Governor of Yucatan, Señor Cardenas, seems to have been perfectly willing to assist those nefarious views; and the Undersigned is justified in making this statement from the answer given by him to the unfortunate Indian prisoners, who laid before him their petition not to be forced to leave their country.

The Undersigned will here give the words of that answer :—

“Merida, December 16, 1854.

“The foregoing petition cannot be listened to, because, according to the information which has been received, the petitioners appear as prisoners of war.

(Signed) “CARDENAS.”

It was this answer which rendered it necessary for the Undersigned, in the execution of his duty, to call upon the Supreme Government to have Señor Cardenas' conduct inquired into, as he seemed determined to break through the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty with Great Britain, the laws of his country, by obliging those Indians to undergo what they evidently considered a worse punishment in a foreign country, as well as the strict orders given on this subject through his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla.

The Undersigned will take this opportunity of requesting to be informed, for transmission to Her Majesty's Government, what has been the result of the inquiry which his Excellency promised the Undersigned, in his note of the 6th ultimo, should be made into the conduct of Señor Cardenas.

Fully aware, as the Undersigned is, of the sentiments of his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla on the subject of slavery, he will take leave to communicate some information which he has received on the above question, so that his Excellency may give such orders as he may consider necessary.

When the Indians sent in the “Maria Jacinta” and “Anita” were embarked at Sisal from Merida, they were sent down there guarded, and chained together until they were put on board the vessel which was to take them to the Havana. This is but little in accordance with the statements forwarded to the Supreme Government by the Mexican Consul in that port, of their delight and happiness at going there, and of their earnest prayer not to be sent back to Yucatan, but is a strong testimony in favour of the truth of their sentiments as expressed in their petition to Señor Cardenas not to be sent there.

Perhaps his Excellency Señor Bonilla is not aware who was the interpreter employed by Señor Carvalho, the Mexican Consul. He was the agent in the pay of the house of Goicouria. Señor Carvalho declared that a servant of his own, who understands the Maya language, said that the interpreter had translated what had been said faithfully: but, as a matter of justice to those unhappy men, surely an interpreter in whom faith could be placed should be employed.

Moreover, with respect to the Indians embarked in the “Maria Jacinta” and “Anita,” the formalities decreed by his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla were not observed by Señor Cardenas. Those prisoners had never been condemned to any punishment whatever, as they had not been tried, nor were they allowed the choice of their being punished in their own country, according to their offences, or of being shipped off to the Island of Cuba.

The contracts which appear to be signed by them, were subscribed by a clerk of the house of Goicouria, without consulting the will of the Indians,

who had already been sent to the port of Sisal, a distance of twelve leagues from Merida.

The Undersigned has already had the honour of bringing before the attention of the Supreme Government the illegal grant made by Señor Barbuchan to Señor Martyn y Torrens to form a fishing establishment in the Isla de Mujeres, and which it is well known has been made use of to kidnap and carry off to the Island of Cuba some of the unfortunate Indians living on the coast; and he has also urged upon the attention of his Excellency Señor Bonilla the grant made on his own responsibility by Señor Cardenas to the houses of Zangronis and Goicouria to embark Indians at Rio Lagartos.

The Undersigned feels assured that Señor Bonilla, desirous, as the Undersigned knows his Excellency is, to prevent any abuses being committed towards the unfortunate Indians of Yucatan, will at once take the necessary measures for annulling the illegal grant made to Señor Martyn y Torrens, and issue the strictest orders to prevent any Indians being again embarked at Rio Lagartos, or any other point where the conduct of the agents of the houses of Goicouria and Zangronis cannot be properly watched by the Mexican authorities, and that no contracts shall henceforward be made with them except in their presence, and under the immediate authority of the Governor of Yucatan.

The Undersigned is the more anxious on this point, because, when Captain Dobbie, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Buzzard," called lately off Rio Lagartos, he reported, on his arrival at the Havana, that there were at that time 80 more Indians kept there for the purpose of being sent to the Island of Cuba by the first opportunity.

Captain Dobbie has received instructions to call again off that point, as well as at Sisal, on his return to Vera Cruz, and the Undersigned will not fail to communicate all such information as he may receive from that officer to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, to whom the Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 202.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

National Palace, March 17, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has acquainted his Imperial Highness with the contents of the note of his Excellency Percy W. Doyle on the 10th instant, with reference to the last permission granted to Messrs. Zangronis Brothers and Co., to contract the natives of Yucatan, and those of the tribes of the northern frontiers; and the Undersigned is commanded by his Serene Highness to inform his Excellency Mr. Doyle that the Supreme Government had already anticipated his wishes, inasmuch as with the view of preventing the contracts which the houses of Goicouria and Zangronis may make with the natives being abused, the Government of the Department of Yucatan was instructed on the 8th instant that all such contracts, when they cannot be made before the Governor, must be signed in the presence of persons duly authorised, in order that the same may be done with the proper solemnity and validity.

As it is also the wish of his Serene Highness that no permission whatsoever be given to embark the natives who may sign contracts at the River Lagartos or other such ports, but only at Sisal, Campeaché, or other ports open to commerce, the most precise instructions as to the way in which they are to be embarked and conveyed with safety and convenience have been issued.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA. J

No. 203.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 4th of March, on the subject of the transportation of the Yucatan Indian prisoners of war from Mexico to Cuba, I have to state to you that all doubt, if any had existed, of the nature of these abominable transactions has been removed by the examination of the poor Indians which, as I learn from Mr. Crawford,* takes place on their arrival in Cuba; and Her Majesty's Government trust that the Mexican Government, for the sake of humanity and of its own credit, will at once put an end to the Slave Trade now carrying on from the territory of the Republic.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 204.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 12, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting the compulsory transportation to Cuba of Yucatan Indians, under the pretence of their being free colonists, and I have in reply to express to you my entire approval of your proceedings in this matter.

No. 205.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Mexico, May 3, 1855.

IN my despatch of the 2nd February,† I had the honour to inform your Lordship that I had repeated my request to Señor Bonilla that the Supreme Government would withdraw the permission given to Messrs. Martyn y Torrens, of the Havana, to form fishing establishments off the coast of Yucatan, as I had every reason to believe they had been made use of to kidnap and carry off Indians to the Island of Cuba.

Your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed Decree that the permission in question has now been withdrawn.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 205.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, May 1, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to Mr. Percy Doyle the Decree made public by the Ministry of Public Works on the 12th of March last, revoking the one published by the former State of Yucatan on the 21st of June, 1848, conceding to Spanish vessels the right of fishing on the coasts of that peninsula.

By this measure his Excellency will see that an end has been put to the

* No. 326.

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 269.

fear which he expressed in several notes that, upon the pretext of fishing, the Spanish vessels occupied themselves in carrying off natives of Yucatan in order to transport them to Cuba, and there employ them as slaves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 205.

Decree.

(Translation.) *Ministry of "Fomento," Colonization, Industry, and Commerce,
of the Mexican Republic.*

HIS Serene Highness the General President has been pleased to issue the following Decree:—

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, &c., &c.

The Decree issued on the 21st of June, 1848, by the Government of the ancient State of Yucatan, by which permission was given to Spanish vessels to fish on the coasts of that peninsula, is hereby annulled.

Wherefore, I command that this be printed, made public, circulated, and that due observance be given to it.

Given in the Palace of the National Government in Mexico this 12th day of March, 1855.

(Signed)

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

No. 206.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Lettsom.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1855.

WITH reference to Mr. Doyle's despatch of the 3rd of May, inclosing a copy of a Decree issued by the Government of Mexico, revoking the permission granted to Spanish vessels from Cuba to fish off the coast of Yucatan, I have to instruct you to inform Señor Bonilla that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction that the Mexican Government have acquiesced in the wishes expressed by Mr. Doyle on this subject, in order to counteract the clandestine exportation of Yucatan Indians to Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 207.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Lettsom.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 20, 1855.

WITH respect to the sufferings of the Yucatan Indians imported into Cuba, I transmit to you for your information a copy of a despatch from Lord Howden,* inclosing a copy of the reply made by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the representations which had been made to him on this subject.

No. 208.

Mr. Lettsom to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3,)

My Lord,

Mexico, November 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that General Ampudia has been removed from the post of Governor of Yucatan, and that he is succeeded in that office by Señor Don Santiago Mendez.

I am unable as yet to inform your Lordship what influence this change is likely to produce in the Trade of selling the Yucatan Indians, but I am by no means sure that it is the intention of the present Government to abandon this infamous Traffic; for when I spoke upon the subject to Señor Arroyo, some weeks ago, expressing a hope to him that this Trade would now be given up, he told me that it would be an injustice towards the contractors to do so, as they had paid into the public Treasury the sum of 30,000 dollars for the concessions.

I learn, however, privately, from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, that the system may probably be given up before long, from a motive, however, which is more likely to be of weight in this country than feelings of humanity—namely, from it being found that the employment of these Yucatan Indians does not pay. Be the motive what it may which puts an end to this atrocity, it is to be sincerely hoped that it will not be maintained in force for many months longer; for I learn through Colonel Robles, who stopped recently in Cuba on his return to this country, that the condition of these labourers in that island is truly pitiable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. G. LETTSOM.

MONTE VIDEO.

No. 209.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thornton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 8, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch* and of its inclosure, which I have received from Mr. Grattan, Her Majesty's Consul at Boston, respecting a schooner under American colours, which cleared from Boston for Monte Video on the 24th of August, under circumstances leading to a suspicion that she was intended for the Slave Trade.

I have to instruct you to endeavour to ascertain whether anything is known of the arrival of this vessel at Monte Video, and whether there is any truth in the statement of the master that he was obliged to hasten his departure from Boston, in order to fulfil a contract into which he had entered, for the conveyance of mails from Monte Video to some other port.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 210.

Mr. Thornton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 12, 1856.)

My Lord,

Monte Video, November 21, 1855.

IN compliance with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch dated the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the schooner under American colours therein described, which cleared from Boston for Monte Video on the 24th of August, has not arrived at this port as yet, neither can there be any truth in the statement of the master, that he was obliged to hasten his departure from Boston, in order to fulfil a contract into which he had entered for the conveyance of mails from this to some other port. As far as I can learn, no such contract has been entered into here, nor would be in the nature of things.

Mr. Hamilton, the United States' Consul at this port, has received no notice of the above-mentioned vessel, either from his Government or otherwise.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

PERSIA.

No. 211.

Mr. Murray to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord,

Camp near Tehran, October 16, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, with a copy of an extract from a letter addressed by him to the Government of Bombay, respecting the impunity enjoyed by the Oman Arabs in the prosecution of the Slave Trade, as contrasted with the efficacy of the measures adopted for the suppression of the Traffic at Persian ports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CH. A. MURRAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 211.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Murray.

Sir,

Residency in the Persian Gulf, Bushire, June 22, 1855.

THE Honourable the Court of Directors having called for explanations relative to the impunity enjoyed by the maritime States of Oman in the prosecution of the Slave Trade, as contrasted with the efficacy of the measures adopted for the suppression of the Traffic at the ports of Persia, I have the honour to inclose, for your Excellency's information, extracts from the reply addressed by me to the Government of Bombay, which, referring to matters closely connected with Her Majesty's Mission, I have thought might prove of interest to your Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 211.

Captain Kemball to the Secretary of the Government of Bombay.

(Extract.)

June 22, 1855.

NEITHER the Convention with Persia, nor the Treaties concluded with the Arabian States, confer upon British functionaries the right of demanding the liberation of slaves after they have been once landed, or of exacting responsibility from the importers ; but in the case of the Persian ports, owing to the cordial cooperation of the Persian Commissioner, Meerza Mahmood Khan, to whose efforts in the good cause I willingly embrace this opportunity of bearing testimony, and owing to the support uniformly afforded by Her Majesty's Mission at the capital, the operation of the Convention has been extended to a degree to render it effective ; whereas, in the case of the Oman States, as the execution of those Treaties must depend entirely upon our own measures, the

result has been only commensurate with the means employed, comprising threats and remonstrances often repeated and never enforced.

It was the reproach of Persia, that she had been the last to follow the example of Turkey and other Mahometan States, in making concessions to Great Britain with a view to the abolition of the Slave Trade. It is but justice now to record to her credit that her obligations once accepted, she has been the first, nay, the only one, to conform to their spirit as well as to their letter. The effects of the example made of some of the Persian Chieftains during the past three years, are already apparent. On my late tour of the Gulf, I was assured by the Agent at Lingah that he had been unable to trace one single instance of importation of slaves on that coast during the current season, nor did the inquiries generally instituted by myself on the spot, permit me to question the accuracy of the inference to be drawn from his statement.

PORTUGAL.

No. 212.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 26, 1855.

I HAD the honour to mention in my despatch of the 12th instant, that I was about to communicate to the Viscount d'Athoguia the copy of a despatch from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Arbitrator in the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission Court at Loanda, which your Lordship was pleased to transmit with your Lordship's despatch of the 6th of March,* containing interesting particulars respecting the intended expedition of the Rev. Mr. Livingston across the African continent.

I now beg leave to lay before your Lordship a translation of a note which I have received from the Viscount d'Athoguia, returning the copy of Mr. Gabriel's despatch, and in which his Excellency takes occasion to remark that it is not the fact, as stated by Mr. Gabriel, that up to the present time the continent of Africa had not been traversed by any European, that feat having been twice accomplished at the beginning of the present century, by expeditions dispatched from Loanda by the Colonial Government.

Supposing this statement to be correct, of which the Viscount d'Athoguia seems to entertain no doubt, it is not without interest in the history of geographical exploration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 212.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, March 21, 1855.

VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA presents his compliments to Sir Richard Pakenham, and has the honour to return to him the copy of a despatch from Her Britannic Majesty's Arbitrator to the Mixed English and Portuguese Commission established at Loanda, announcing the departure of the Rev. Mr. Livingston from that city for the interior of Africa, in order to prosecute his travels of discovery.

Viscount d'Athoguia, in returning thanks to Sir Richard Pakenham for this communication, which he has transmitted to the Marine Department for such use as may be expedient, has at the same time the honour to remark, that the assertion contained in that despatch to the effect that no European had crossed the continent of Africa previously to Mr. Livingston, is contradicted by the fact of an expedition from Loanda to the opposite coast having been successfully carried out in the early part of this century (in 1807), when Antonio de Saldanha da Gama, afterwards Conde de Porto Santo, was Governor and Captain-General of the Kingdom of Angola, which expedition returned in 1809; the said Captain-General having moreover immediately dispatched a second expedition with express instructions to proceed as far as Mozambique,

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 363.

which were punctually carried out, the expedition returning to Loanda with letters from that capital, José de Oliveira Barbosa being then Governor of Angola, as may be seen at pages 264 and 265 of "The Chronological Index of the Voyages, Travels, Discoveries, and Conquests of the Portuguese in parts beyond the seas, from the beginning of the 15th century," edited by the late Cardinal Saraiva.

If Sir Richard Pakenham should have occasion to examine the collection of the Annals of the Maritime and Colonial Society of Lisbon, he will find in it interesting accounts of the exploring expeditions of the Portuguese in the interior of Africa, of which also one of his countrymen, T. E. Bowditch, has treated in his narrative, which he published in London in the year 1824.

No. 213.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 4, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch to you of the 26th September, 1854,* respecting a shipment of slaves at Loanda, in April of that year, on board the Portuguese colonial transport "Trindade," I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a further despatch† upon that subject which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 214.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 5, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, reporting the successful efforts made for putting a stop to Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil; and I have to desire that you will take an opportunity of drawing the attention of the Government of Portugal to the praiseworthy conduct which the Brazilian Government is pursuing, by giving their active assistance towards the suppression of Slave Trade. You will at the same time point out the fact mentioned by Mr. Howard, that the slave-dealers expelled from Brazil are in the habit of taking refuge in Portugal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 215.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 4.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 28, 1855.

IN pursuance of the instructions conveyed in your Lordship's despatch to Sir Richard Pakenham of the 5th of this month, I addressed to his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, transmitting with it an extract from Mr. Howard's despatch

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 334.

† Class A, presented 1855, No. 90,

‡ No. 84.

to your Lordship of the 16th March, in order to show the sense entertained by Her Majesty's Government of the praiseworthy conduct of the Brazilian Government in giving their active assistance towards the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure in No. 215.

Mr. Ward to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Lisbon, May 22, 1855.

THE Undersigned has the honour, in transmitting to his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia, by the directions of Her Majesty's Government, the inclosed extract from a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Rio de Janeiro, reporting the successful efforts made for putting a stop to Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil, to draw the attention of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to the praiseworthy conduct which the Brazilian Government is pursuing, by giving their active assistance towards the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government have also particularly remarked another statement in Mr. Howard's despatch, to the effect that the slave-traders expelled from Brazil are in the habit of taking refuge in Portugal.

The correspondence of this Mission with His Most Faithful Majesty's Government furnishes, unfortunately, many instances corroborating this statement; and information which has reached Her Majesty's Government from various quarters, convinces them that such persons have not ceased to watch every opportunity of carrying on their criminal operations.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 216.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1855.

WITH reference to Sir Richard Pakenham's despatch of the 10th of February last, and to my reply thereto dated the 26th February,* respecting a seizure of 194 slaves in the neighbourhood of Equiminas, made in November 1854, by Captain Rodovalho, of the Portuguese brig of war "Serra do Pilar," I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that Captain Rodovalho had taken the negroes in question before the proper Court at Benguella, and that the Juiz de Direito had pronounced the seizure to be null and unsustainable, and had ordered the slaves to be restored to their owners.

And I have to instruct you to bring this case before the Portuguese Government, and earnestly to request their interference to prevent these unfortunate creatures being doomed to slavery.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 217.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch‡ and of its inclosures from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, containing some information that he had received respecting the movements and operations of certain well-

* Class B, presented 1855, Nos. 361 and 362.

† Class A, No. 63.

‡ No. 88.

known slave-dealers ; and I have to instruct you to make inquiries about, and to watch the proceedings of, Senhor Amorim, a copy of a letter from whom forms the first inclosure in Mr. Howard's despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 218.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 14, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the expulsion of Francisco Flores, the notorious slave-dealer, from the province of Angola, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that Flores had left that place for Lisbon, but that it was understood that an order had been issued by the Portuguese Government, revoking that previously given for his expulsion ; of which second Portaria, however, it did not suit Flores to avail himself.

And I have to instruct you to inquire whether the above statement is correct, and if so, you will inform Viscount d'Athoguia that the rumour in question has reached Her Majesty's Government, but that they are unwilling to believe that this order has been given by the Portuguese Government, after the correspondence that has passed, and the repeated proofs that have been given that Flores was actively engaged in Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 219.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

(Translation.)

London, June 14, 1855.

THE Governor-General of the Province of Angola having been absent from the city of Loanda at the commencement of last year, and the Government of that colony in the interval, having consequently been entrusted, in accordance with the provisions of the laws of Portugal, to the Bishop of the Diocese, the first Magistrate, and the Chief Military authority of the Province ; and the Board of Superintendence of Freed Negroes having assembled in accordance with the provisions of Annex C of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, and the three members constituting the Interim Government having appeared at the Board, together with the British Commissioner, the latter, in reliance upon the letter of the IIIrd Article of the Annex C of the aforesaid Treaty of the 3rd of July, declared :

That he was unable to enter upon the matters which were entrusted to that Board by the aforesaid Treaty in the presence of more than one Portuguese Commissioner. Having made this declaration, and stated his reasons, the British Commissioner retired from the Conference, and shortly afterwards gave in a written protest against the interpretation which the three members of the Interim Government wished to put upon the before-mentioned IIIrd Article of the Annex C of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842. This protest was forthwith sent by the Interim Government of the Province of Angola to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, who, thinking it necessary that the possibility of raising similar doubts at a future time should be prevented, as prejudicial to the good and prompt execution of the said Treaty, gave the necessary instructions and orders to the Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Most Faithful Majesty at the Court of Her Britannic Majesty, to make these circumstances known to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., and to propose that, either by means of an exchange of notes, or by some other means which may appear more convenient, the Governments of His Most Faithful Majesty and of Her Britannic Majesty should determine the way in which the IIIrd Article of Annex C of the Treaty of the 3rd July,

* Class A, No. 65.

1842, should be understood and carried into effect, whenever, by the death, or absence, or any other impediment of the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, the Government should be in the hands of the three functionaries called by the law.

In order to prevent the repetition of similar doubts, the Undersigned takes the liberty of suggesting to his Excellency the adoption of one of these expedients: the first is, to call to the Commission the President of the Interim Government; the second is, to call the first magistrate of the colony. The Undersigned would prefer the first to the second of these suggestions.

Either of these proposals appears to the Undersigned to be in conformity with the spirit of the Treaty, but if his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon should offer any other suggestion which might better accomplish the objects of the Treaty, the Undersigned is persuaded that his Government will have no hesitation in accepting it.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) LAVRADIO.

No. 220.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 8, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a translation of a note which I have this day received from the Viscount d'Athoguia, in answer to that which I addressed to his Excellency on the 22nd ultimo, for the purpose, in pursuance of your Lordship's instructions, of drawing the attention of the Government of Portugal to the praiseworthy conduct which the Brazilian Government is pursuing, by giving their active assistance towards the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Viscount d'Athoguia in this note claims for his Government, credit for having made great sacrifices in keeping up a force on the coast of Africa, exclusively for the service of suppressing the Slave Trade, as well as for the legislative measures recently passed for the purpose of putting an end to the state of servitude in the Portuguese dominions.

With respect to Portuguese subjects expelled from Brazil on suspicion of being engaged in slave-trading operations, and taking refuge in Portugal, his Excellency observes, that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government have no power to prevent such individuals from establishing themselves in this country, as long as they are guilty of no crime therein punishable by the laws at present in force; nay, that they would not fail even in England to be admitted to reside under the protection of English law, provided that their conduct did not betray an intention of continuing to devote themselves to such criminal speculations.

Only two days ago, the Viscount d'Athoguia, on the occasion of an attack in the Chambers by a member of the Opposition, Senhor Correa Caldeira, gave utterance to almost identical expressions to those contained in his note, and, singularly enough, his opponent drew a comparison between the zeal of the Brazilian Government and the negligence of that of Portugal, though with reference to a particular subject, that of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," concerning which vessels the Brazilian Government had published, as Senhor Caldeira observed, the fullest details in a report to their Chambers, while the Portuguese Ministers, in whose country the vessels were fitted out, had no information at all to submit to the Cortes on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure in No. 220.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.)

Palace, June 6, 1855.

I HAD the honour to receive the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 22nd May last, acquainting me, according to instructions which you had received, with the substance of a despatch addressed by the British

Minister at Rio de Janeiro to his Government, on the subject of the successful measures employed by the Brazilian Government for the purpose of suppressing the Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil.

In the same note you drew the attention of His Majesty's Government to the observation made by Mr. Howard, that the slave-dealers when expelled from Brazil are accustomed to take refuge in Portugal.

Having attentively read your observations, I have to remark to you that the measures taken, and the exertions made, by His Majesty's Government to put an end to the inhuman Traffic in Slaves, have repeatedly been acknowledged by Her Britannic Majesty's Government; which will not fail also to acknowledge with what difficulty, and at what sacrifice, they (the Portuguese Government) maintain a naval station in the African seas employed exclusively on that service. The measures recently passed by the same Government, to put an end to the condition of slavery in the dominions of the Portuguese Crown, which were appreciated by the British Government, are a fresh guarantee of the great interest taken by His Majesty's Government in the emancipation and freedom of the blacks.

With respect to the circumstance mentioned, that individuals expelled from Brazil on suspicion of devoting themselves to illicit Slave Trade, are in the habit of taking refuge in Portugal, I have likewise to remark to you that His Majesty's Government cannot prevent such individuals from coming and residing in this country, as long as they have not committed therein any crime liable to the penalties established by the laws now in force. In Great Britain itself, where the laws are so strictly observed, these very individuals, under the same circumstances, would not fail to be admitted and to reside under the protection of those laws, unless their acts should betray an intention of continuing to employ themselves in that criminal Traffic.

Trusting, accordingly, that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will appreciate the sentiments of good faith wherewith His Majesty's Government endeavours to comply with the stipulations established by Treaties between the two countries, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

VISCOUNT D'ATHOQUIA.

No. 221.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

Foreign Office, June 20, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Count Lavradio, &c., addressed to him on the 14th instant, and in which Count Lavradio refers to the manner in which the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Africans at Loanda should be constituted in the event of the absence of the Governor-General of the Province of Angola; and Count Lavradio proposes that the substitute for that officer should be either the President of the Provisional Government, or the first magistrate of the colony, giving however the preference to the former of these two propositions.

The Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform Count Lavradio in reply, that Her Majesty's Government are ready to accede to the wishes of the Portuguese Government in this matter as expressed by him; and the Undersigned will consequently inform Her Majesty's Commissioner at Loanda, that it has been agreed between the two Governments that, in the absence of the Governor of the Province of Angola, the President of the Provisional Government is to be the Portuguese member of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Africans at Loanda, according to the provisions of the IIIrd Article of Annex C to the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal of the 3rd of June, 1842.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 222.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 5th and 6th of June respectively.

In compliance with the instructions conveyed to me by the first of these despatches, I have addressed a note to the Viscount d'Athoguia, recapitulating the circumstances under which the Juiz de Direito at Benguella had pronounced to be null and unsustainable the seizure of slaves made by Captain Rodovalho of the Portuguese navy, in the neighbourhood of Equimina in November 1854, and requesting the interference of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to prevent those unfortunate creatures being doomed to slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 223.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 25, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing their report on the state of the Slave Trade in the neighbourhood of the Province of Angola, during the year 1854.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 224.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 26, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th instant, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy a further despatch† from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda respecting the expulsion of Senhor Flores from Angola, by which despatch Her Majesty's Government are glad to perceive that the Commissioners do not consider that there is any foundation for the report that the Portuguese Government had actually rescinded the Decree for his removal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 225.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 28, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the note which I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia, in conformity with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th instant, together with a translation of his Excellency's reply.

It appears that the Viscount d'Athoguia had been informed already of the judicial proceedings which had taken place with regard to the slaves liberated by Captain Rodovalho at Point Equimina, and that orders have been sent to take

* Class A, No. 66.

† Ibid., No. 67.

care that justice should take its due course, the Government being precluded from interfering in the decision of the Courts of Law.

I am informed that the appeal will be tried in the Superior Courts of this city.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 225.

Mr. Ward to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Lisbon, June 16, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acquaint his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoquia, &c., that Sir R. Pakenham had the satisfaction of bringing to the notice of Her Majesty's Government the despatch of Captain Rodovalho, published in the "*Diario do Governo*" of the 8th of February last, reporting the seizure of 194 slaves found in irons, and ready to be shipped at an establishment in the neighbourhood of Equimina, which seizure was effected in the month of November 1854.

Her Majesty's Government have recently received information from the British Commissioners at Loanda, respecting the judicial proceedings which took place at Benguella in consequence of that seizure; according to which it appears that the Juiz do Direito of Benguella declared the seizure in question to be null and unsustainable, and ordered the slaves, and the irons in which they were found, to be restored to their owners.

The captain had justified the seizure on three distinct grounds:—

1. On the fact of these slaves, of which the majority were children, being found chained, showing that they were not, therefore, destined for the use of the estate.
2. On the confession of those in whose charge they were.
3. On the declaration of the slaves themselves.

With regard to the first ground, the sentence denies the justness of the conclusion; maintains that slave-irons constitute no indication of Slave Traffic, unless found on board a vessel; that there is no law classifying such indications ashore; and that the traffic in and transport of slaves by land, whether kept in chains or not—*i. e.*, their being bought and sold, and transferred from one part of the province or Portuguese territory to another—is as legal as the buying or selling of any kind of cattle, and will continue to be so as long as slavery exists, as it now does, *de jure* and *de facto*.

With regard to the second ground, the sentence declares, first, the denial by the parties said to have made it of any such confession; and, secondly, assumes that, supposing it to have been made at the moment of seizure, it was not spontaneous, but, most probably, coerced in the first moments of surprise and alarm, and perhaps influenced by the hope of saving some by the sacrifice of a part.

As respects the third ground, namely, the declaration of the slaves themselves, the Judge characterizes them as "vile and despicable beings," whose testimony is inadmissible. He further rejects that of the captor and his officers as "suspicious," they having (he says) an interest in making good the validity of their seizure; while at the same time he admits the evidence of the owners and parties interested in the establishment.

Her Majesty's Commissioners further report that, as soon as this sentence was pronounced, it was appealed against; and the individual under whose charge the slaves were found, Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, who had been confined in the fortress, but who, upon promulgation of the sentence, was at once set at liberty, was ordered to be again taken into custody. Eight days' grace were, however, granted to him, at the end of which, as was to be expected, he was nowhere to be found. In the meantime, Captain Rodovalho had sailed for Benguella, for the purpose of securing the slaves pending the appeal, and had, at the date of the Commissioner's despatch, returned to Loanda, bringing with him those that remained out of the 194 seized at Equimina.

The Undersigned is instructed to bring this case before His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and earnestly to request their interference to prevent these unfortunate creatures from being doomed to slavery; and he takes, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 225.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, June 19, 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 16th instant, relative to the capture of some slaves, in the neighbourhood of Equimina, by the Commander of the Portuguese naval station on the West Coast of Africa.

I read with attention its contents, and, in reply, I have the honour to observe that the Government of His Majesty, having been informed of everything relating to that affair, has already dispatched all the necessary orders, in order that justice may take its due course; but at the same time it cannot interfere with the legal proceedings of the case, inasmuch as this alone belongs to the judicial power.

I have, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 226.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 10.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 6, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 25th and 26th of June respectively, the former transmitting the report of Her Majesty's Commissioners on the state of the Slave Trade in the neighbourhood of the Province of Angola; and the latter also inclosing a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that they did not consider that there was any foundation for the report that the Portuguese Government had rescinded the Decree for the removal of Senhor Francisco Flores from that Colony.

The Viscount d'Athoguia has assured me that Senhor Flores, who is now in Lisbon, has never even made an application to have the Decree in question reversed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 227.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 28, 1855.

THE Viscount d'Athoguia has communicated to me extracts from a Portaria sent to the Governor-General of Angola on the 14th of June last, in consequence of the occurrence reported to your Lordship by Sir Richard Pakenham in his despatch of the 10th of February last,* of the capture of 194 slaves (supposed to be destined for exportation) at Equimina, by Captain Rodovalho.

The first clause of this Portaria directs the Governor-General to order the Law Officers of the Crown in the Province of Angola to be diligent in prosecuting all cases of slave-trading; and the following clauses provide for the establishment of a military post at Equimina; for the humane treatment of slaves; for the emancipation of any slave giving information of slaves being kept

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 361.

in irons for the purpose of embarkation, providing especially for the case of the slave who gave information of the intended embarkation at Equimina; for a strict surveillance of Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, and others; for preventing slave-dealers from tampering with the judicial authorities; for prohibiting the establishment of factories on any part of the coast where the authorities are unable to exercise due surveillance; and, lastly, for receiving evidence against notorious slave-dealers, for the purpose of reporting to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and recommending the removal of such persons from the province, in the event of their not being punished by the competent Courts of Law.

Translations of the Viscount d'Athoguia's note, and of the extracts from the Portaria, are inclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 227.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, July 26, 1855.

WITH reference to your Excellency's note of the 19th of June last, relative to the capture of some slaves at Equimina by the Commandant of the Portuguese naval station on the West Coast of Africa, I have the honour to transmit, for your Excellency's consideration, the inclosed extract of orders sent on the 14th of June to the Governor-General of the Province of Angola, the perusal of which will show the measures adopted with regard to that capture, and the interest His Majesty's Government take in all that relates to the infamous Traffic in Slaves.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 227.

*Extract of Instructions sent to the Governor-General of Angola on the
14th June, 1855.*

(Translation.)

HIS Majesty the King Regent, in the name of the King, having taken cognizance of the despatches of the Governor-General of Angola relative to the capture of 194 slaves at Equimina, to the south of Benguella, by the Commandant on that naval station, His Gracious Majesty, through the Department of Foreign Affairs, desires the following to be communicated to the said Governor-General:—

1. That orders be given to all agents of public departments in that province to promote and stimulate the regular march of all proceedings at law relating to crimes concerning the disgraceful Traffic in Slaves.

2. That a military post be established at Equimina, with a Commandant, who will see that that Traffic is not carried on in his district, and who remains responsible for every negligence or connivance in that Traffic.

3. The use of chains for securing the slaves is prohibited, as well as all other irons, such as iron collars and fetters, &c.; those who contravene such orders running the risk, for every slave put in irons, of a fine of 20,000 reis, and an imprisonment of thirty days; all which the Governor-General will cause to be published and circulated, according to the 489th Article of the Penal Code.

4. That the slave who shall denounce any one as possessing slaves in irons, or any ready for embarkation (such being a true statement) shall be immediately redeemed at the cost of the State, in conformity with the Decree of the 14th of December, 1854; that slave being liberated, consequently, who denounced the intended embarkation at Equimina, as appears by the despatch of the Governor of Benguella of the 16th of November of that year (1854), copy of which was inclosed in despatch No. 28 of the 16th of January of the present year from the Commandant of the naval station at Angola.

5. That the Governor-General watch closely the citizen Ignacio Teixeira

Xavier, and other slave-dealers, and establish a severe and efficacious surveillance with regard to their proceedings.

6. That the Governor-General pay particular attention in preventing magistrates from having any private relations with slave-dealers; making use of their own authority, or having recourse to His Majesty's Government, if necessary.

7. That nobody be permitted, without the consent of the Governor-General, to establish factories at any point of the coast of the province where the authorities cannot exercise an easy and prompt surveillance, under pain of having such factories rendered useless.

8. Finally, that, should any one be known as the author or abettor of exportations of slaves, the Governor-General shall collect all the documents which may tend to prove such suspicions, and on the hearing of the Council of Government shall propose to His Majesty's Government his expulsion from the province, sending, at the same time, all documents and copies of the acts of the Council, when the said author or abettor has not been punished by the competent tribunals.

Department of Foreign Affairs, July 26, 1855.

(Signed)

EMILIO ACHILLES MONTEVERDE.

No. 228.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, August 28, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of two letters, with their inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Consul Johnston of Oporto, reporting the steps which he had taken in consequence of the appearance of an advertisement in one of the public papers, of a reward for information respecting a slave stated to have escaped from the Brazilian brig "Iris."

This incident is almost identical with one which took place in the year 1847, when Sir Hamilton Seymour's appeal was promptly answered and followed up with an honourable zeal on the part of Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government.

The details of that occurrence will be found in Sir Hamilton Seymour's despatch of 8th October, 1847.

On the present occasion, however, the Civil Governor of Oporto appears inclined to adopt, without sufficient evidence, the account of the Brazilian captain, who represents his object to be not the recovery of a slave, but the prosecution of a thief.

Nor has the Viscount d'Athoguia yet replied to the note (a copy of which is inclosed) which I addressed to his Excellency on the subject, as soon as I had received Mr. Consul Johnston's first letter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 228.

Consul Johnston to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Oporto, August 21, 1855.

I BEG to transmit to you, herewith, a copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Civil Governor of Oporto, in consequence of an advertisement having been published in the Oporto newspaper "Commercio," offering a reward for a slave who had escaped from the Brazilian vessel "Iris."

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 228.

Consul Johnston to the Civil Governor of Oporto.

Excellent Sir,

Oporto, August 20, 1855.

I BEG leave to call your Excellency's attention to the inclosed advertisement, which appeared in the newspaper "Commercio" of this day's date, offering a reward for a slave who has escaped from the Brazilian vessel "Iris;" and from the publication of which it appears that there are still people who think that the Traffic in Slaves is tolerated in this country.

I am confident, however, that this undisguised design to reduce a free man to slavery in Oporto will, upon your Excellency's being made acquainted with it, be frustrated by your Excellency's orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 228.

Advertisement.

(Translation.)

ANTONIO DE SOUZA MACIEL, Captain of the Brazilian brig "Iris," a slave having run away from his vessel, by name José, 40 years of age, tall, long face, and thick lips, requests any person who may know anything of him to give information to the captain on board, or to Manoel Pinheiro Alves, consignee of the vessel, and he will receive a handsome reward.

Inclosure 4 in No. 228.

Consul Johnston to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Oporto, August 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, herewith, a copy of the reply of the Civil Governor of Oporto to the communication which I made to him, and of which a copy was inclosed in my letter to you of the 21st instant, on the subject of an advertisement in the newspaper "Commercio," offering a reward for a slave who had left the Brazilian ship "Iris;" and also a copy of a letter on the same subject which I have addressed to his Excellency to-day.

I still think it possible that the man mentioned in that advertisement is regarded as a slave by the master of the "Iris;" and that, if he appear in Oporto, attempts may be made to put him on board of that vessel without his having been brought before a tribunal in Portugal, and without the sanction of the proper authorities.

The "Iris" is bound to Rio Grande.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

Inclosure 5 in No. 228.

The Civil Governor of Oporto to Consul Johnston.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious Senhor,

Oporto, August 22, 1855.

I HAVE before me your despatch dated the 20th instant, received yesterday evening, inclosing, to be taken into consideration, the copy of an advertisement inserted in the "Journal of Commerce" of this city, relative to the flight of a sailor of the Brazilian brig "Iris," in which is given the name of slave, certainly by ignorance or error of the editor: and it behoves me to explain to

you that, on the same day of the date of the advertisement cited, there appeared in this Civil Government Office the captain of the vessel above referred to, demanding or claiming the capture of the said sailor, who had absented himself from on board with a considerable quantity of various articles belonging to the same captain; the truth of which being confirmed to me by the Brazilian Vice-Consul in his letter of the same date, in which he claimed the caption of the fugitive, I issued the necessary orders for his apprehension and delivery to the ordinary tribunals, in conformity to the laws; but to the present time he has not been found, it appearing that he has fled in the direction towards the Province of Alto Minho.

God save you.

The Civil Governor,
(Signed) BARON OF VALLADO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 228.

Consul Johnston to the Civil Governor of Oporto.

Excellent Sir,

Oporto, August 24, 1855.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 22nd instant, in reply to mine of the 20th instant respecting an advertisement in the "Commercio" concerning a man therein styled a slave, and to thank your Excellency for the statement which you have been so good as to make to me on the subject.

Your Excellency's having noticed the advertisement is an assurance that you will not permit the man to be dealt with as a slave; your Excellency's sentiments being, doubtless, the same as those of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, as shown in the orders which they were pleased to issue in October 1847, when a reward was offered, through the "Periodico des Pobres," by the master of the Brazilian vessel "Ultrice," then in the Douro, for the apprehension of a slave.

In order, however, to account for the impression which the advertisement in question in the "Commercio" made upon me (not having the information upon which your Excellency has come to the conclusion that the term "escravo" was used therein through ignorance or mistake), I beg leave to observe, that in the advertisement the man is described merely as a slave, and not as a seaman who had deserted, or as a thief; that he is called simply José, without a surname; that he is charged with nothing but having fled (being a slave) from the vessel to which he belonged; and that the advertisement altogether bears the strongest resemblance to the notices which used to appear formerly in Brazilian papers concerning runaway slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

Inclosure 7 in No. 228.

Mr. Ward to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Cintra, August 24, 1855.

I LOSE no time in forwarding to your Excellency a copy of an official letter addressed by Her Majesty's Consul at Oporto to his Excellency the Civil Governor, calling his attention to an advertisement published in the "Commercio," offering a reward for information respecting a slave stated to have escaped from the Brazilian brig "Iris."

I trust it will be sufficient to make this circumstance known to your Excellency in order to insure every proper step authorised by the laws of this country being taken to prevent the evident purpose of this advertisement from being answered, that is to say, the consignment of the person alleged to have escaped once more to a state of slavery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 229.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 14.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 8, 1855.

WITH reference to the occurrence referred to in my despatch of the 28th ultimo, I have now the honour to transmit a translation of Viscount d'Athoguia's reply to my note of the 24th ultimo, in which I had communicated to his Excellency the letter of Mr. Consul Johnston to the Civil Governor of Oporto, on the subject of an advertisement offering a reward for information respecting a negro slave who had run from the Brazilian brig "Iris," then lying in the Douro.

Your Lordship will perceive, from the inclosed copies of Mr. Consul Johnston's correspondence, that the negro in whose favour the assistance of the Portuguese Government has been successfully invoked, is now acknowledged to be a slave, notwithstanding the representation of the master of the Brazilian ship, and of the Vice-Consul of that nation, to the Civil Governor of Oporto.

Before the receipt of Mr. Consul Johnston's letter of the 4th instant, I had addressed to him the letter of which also I beg to inclose a copy, and I trust that your Lordship will not disapprove of the tenour of the reply to the Brazilian Vice-Consul's communication which I have suggested.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 229.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, August 29, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note you were pleased to send me on the 24th instant, communicating to me the note which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Oporto wrote to the Civil Governor of that district, calling his attention to an advertisement relative to a runaway slave from the Brazilian brig "Iris;" and in answer I beg to inform you that I have communicated officially on this subject with the Minister of the Interior, begging him to take the necessary steps for preventing the slave to whom the advertisement refers, when he appears, from being delivered over to the captain of the said brig, inasmuch as slavery is not permitted in this kingdom.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 229.

Consul Johnston to Mr. Ward.

Sir.

Oporto, August 31, 1855.

I BEG leave to inform you that the Brazilian Consul in Oporto called upon me to-day, for the purpose of speaking with me about the negro mentioned in my letters of the 21st and 24th ultimo. He did not state the object of his visit to me more particularly, but it appeared to be that I should do nothing further to prevent his sending the negro to Brazil.

In reply to questions which I asked him, he said that the negro was then a prisoner at a place westward of Oporto (the name of which he did not tell me), and that he was a seaman; and, in order to prove that the man was a seaman, he offered to show me a duplicate of the muster-roll of the "Iris." Upon my making further inquiry, however, he declared that the negro was a slave also, and that it was as a slave, and the property of a Brazilian, that he was claiming him.

I endeavoured to convince the Consul that his notions upon the subject

were erroneous, but without effect. I then told him that I should refer the matter to you.

He objected to what he called my complicating the question, and making it one of diplomacy; but, finding that I retained my intention, he requested me to state to you that the compelling of slaves to return on board of Brazilian ships in Portugal, from which they had run, was a matter of frequent occurrence even in Lisbon.

I told him that I should repeat to you what he said upon this point; but I think that he was mistaken. Certainly, I never heard of a slave having been forced on board of a ship in the Douro.

However, as he has made this representation, it is likely that masters of Brazilian vessels, and some people in Portugal, may entertain notions similar to his on the subject. Whether it is not desirable that those people should be warned by the proper authorities against acting upon such opinions, I beg leave to submit to you.

The Brazilian Consul said that he would send me a written communication to the same effect as that which he had made to me verbally; but at this time, 10 P.M., I have not received it.

The vessel from which the negro in question escaped left the Douro a few days ago.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 229.

Consul Johnston to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Oporto, September 4, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from the Brazilian Vice-Consul in Oporto, which I received yesterday evening, concerning the negro to whose case my despatches of the 21st and 24th ultimo relate.

I beg leave also to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 31st ultimo, on the same subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 229.

The Brazilian Vice-Consul at Oporto to Consul Johnston.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious Senhor,

Oporto, September 3, 1855.

AFTER the conversation which I had the honour to hold with you, it behoves me, according to our agreement, to lay before you the following succinct official exposition:—

The Brazilian brig "Iris," Antonio de Souza Maciel, captain and owner, brought from the Rio Grande do Sul three negroes, matriculated in the service of the said vessel, as his slaves, one of whom died in this city of the swollen epidemic; another returned in the said vessel to that port; the third, named José, of the Cabinda nation, deserted from on board shortly before the act of sailing, after the ship had legalised its manifests of cargo, and had cleared in the competent departments of the country, carrying with him stolen articles belonging to the same captain.

On this account the aid of this Vice-Consulate was required for the capture of the negro, wherever he may be met with, in order to his being reconveyed on board, there to resume the duties of his calling to the end of the voyage in the Empire.

Hence, in consequence, the proper orders to the territorial authorities were issued from the dependency of the same Civil Government, by which that fugitive was effectively apprehended in the vicinity of Guimaraes, and detained in custody in the village of Louzada, where at present he awaits the destination to be legally awarded to him, and where he is only delayed by the impediment of

the sudden illness which prevents his immediate return in charge: the ship having, therefore, loosed from this port with this deficiency in her crew.

The Charter of Law of the 7th November, 1831, ruling in the Empire, disposes thus:—

“Article I.—All the slaves who enter the territory or ports of Brazil, coming from abroad, remain free, excepting—1st. The slaves matriculated in the service of vessels belonging to the country where slavery is allowed, whilst they are employed in the service of the same vessels.”

In the sense of this exception the three slaves alluded to were matriculated in the Empire, in order to finish their voyage, and thus guaranteed to the captain and owner of the ship, as proprietor of the slaves in question, the right to his property.

Such matriculations are frequent there, as are reclamations here (as I had the honour to acquaint the Civil Government), like that of this black man José; and in identical cases the authorities of the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty have been pleased to attend to them.

These allegations are submitted to your judicious penetration, combined with the interposition that, on the subject of the flight of the negro, you will worthily verify before the Civil Government, I venture to hope, the common accord between your duties and mine, and will conclude this incident in the manner most adequate to your view of it.

Penetrated by the attentive manners and urbanity with which you have deemed me worthy, I embrace, &c.

God save you.

(Signed) ANTO. JOAQM. DE FARIA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 229.

Mr. Ward to Consul Johnston.

Sir,

Cintra, September 6, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, in which you inform me of what had taken place between you and the Brazilian Consul with respect to the negro who had made his escape from the “Iris.”

I certainly am inclined to agree with your opinion, that the Brazilian Consul must be mistaken in supposing that it was a matter of frequent occurrence in Lisbon to compel slaves who had run from Brazilian ships to return on board such ships. Such a practice would be quite inconsistent with the uniform declarations of His Most Faithful Majesty’s Ministers for Foreign Affairs; and the note which I have just received from the Viscount d’Athoguia, and of which I transmit you a copy, will show in what light the present Ministry view such a matter.

If, therefore, the Brazilian Consul should address to you a written communication to the same effect as that which he has made to you verbally, you can inform him that, so far as the advice and influence of British functionaries can be admissible or available in cases like the present, it will be their duty to give the one and to exert the other to prevent the restitution of any slave who may succeed in making his escape from bondage.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 230.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 15, 1855.

WITH reference to Mr. Ward’s despatch of the 28th of August, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had taken place respecting a runaway slave, advertised in an Oporto newspaper, I have to state to you that I approve Mr. Ward’s proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 231.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, September 18, 1855.

MR. CONSUL JOHNSTON has transmitted to me a copy of a communication from one of the Criminal Judges of Oporto to the Brazilian Vice-Consul at that port, from which it appears that that magistrate is of opinion that there is nothing in Portuguese law to prevent the surrender of the negro slave who escaped from the Brazilian brig "Iris" to the master of that vessel.

I have placed a copy of this communication in the hands of the Viscount d'Athoguia, but I do not think that there is any reason to apprehend any successful effort being made to act on the opinion of the Judge Faria, in consequence of the opposite view taken by the authorities of the Government, and of the orders transmitted from the Home Department to secure the full liberty of the slave in question, in case he should be acquitted of the theft laid to his charge.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of Mr. Consul Johnston's letter, with a translation of its inclosure; and also translations of a note from the Viscount d'Athoguia, and of the Portaria addressed to the Civil Governor of Oporto.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 231.

Consul Johnston to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Oporto, September 6, 1855.

IN my letter of the 31st ultimo, respecting a conversation which I had had with the Brazilian Vice-Consul in Oporto, I observed that some people in Portugal might, like the Vice-Consul, entertain the notion that men brought from Brazil as slaves by Brazilian shipmasters must, after their landing in Portugal, still be considered as the property of those shipmasters; and I submitted to you whether it was not desirable that such persons should be warned by the proper authorities against acting upon that opinion.

I now beg leave to inclose a copy of a letter from the Substitute of the Judge of Criminal Law in Oporto to the Vice-Consul, from which you will perceive that that functionary is of opinion that the negro respecting whose case I have had the honour to address several letters to you lately, ought to be given up to the master of the "Iris" as his slave.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWIN J. JOHNSTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 231.

The Judge of Criminal Law to the Brazilian Vice-Consul at Oporto.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir,

Oporto, August 24, 1855.

IN conformity with the wishes you expressed in your note of to-day, relative to the slave José, of the Cabinda nation, belonging to Antonio de Souza Maciel, captain and owner of the Brazilian brig "Iris," I have the honour to return you the documents which came inclosed, from the perusal of which, and from the actual state of Portuguese legislation now in force, there can be no doubt as to whether the slave should be delivered up to his master.

The Alvará of the 19th of September, 1761, prohibiting the importation of slaves, and declaring free those who, after a certain time, came to this kingdom, was modified by the Alvará of the 10th of March, 1800, which made an exception in the case of slaves registered as seamen. These Alvarás were

afterwards confirmed, and ordered to be rigorously complied with by another Alvará of the 27th of July, 1825.

The Decree of the 10th of December, 1836, the Treaty with England of the 3rd of July, 1842, the Decree of the 14th of September, 1844, make no difference whatever; all anterior legislation remaining, consequently, in full force.

And supposing that the slave was convicted of the crime of robbery, even then Portuguese legislation deals with him, according to the dispositions of Article 27, No. 7, of the Portuguese Penal Code.

Under these circumstances, as the said slave is not imprisoned by my order, nor can he be imprisoned at present, as there is no cause against him before the Courts, it is for the administrative authorities to decide upon the contents of your note.

God preserve, &c.

The Substitute for the Judge of Criminal Law,
(Signed) DOMINGO PINTO DE FARIA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 231.

Viscount d'Athoquia to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, September 13, 1855.

IN answer to the notes which you were good enough to send me on the 24th and 31st August last, and on the 11th instant, relative to what happened at Oporto with a slave named José who had run away from the Brazilian brig "Iris," and who was claimed as a slave by the captain of the said brig, I have the honour to inform you that the Minister of the Interior acquainted me that he was aware of the occurrence through the Civil Governor of the district, and that under the circumstances of the case, he would send to that magistrate the Portaria inclosed, in which the said slave would be considered as free, but that he would be judged according to law for the robbery committed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOQUIA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 231.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

Department of the Interior.

HIS Majesty the King Regent in the name of the King, saw the despatch of the Civil Governor of Oporto of 28th instant, and the documents which accompany it, relative to the black who ran away from the Brazilian brig "Iris" who was seized in Louzada. His Majesty having taken cognizance of the circumstances, desire the following answer to be sent:

1. That in consequence of the announcement published in the journals by the captain of the said brig, in which he declares the negro José to be a slave, who had run away from the ship under his command, the delivery of the said slave cannot take place, as it is contrary to the laws of the country, and because the assertion of the said captain should be alone looked on as authentic, who declared the black to be a slave, as he alone knows the qualifications and circumstances of the individuals who compose the crew of his ship, notwithstanding the demand of the Brazilian Consul, who claimed him as one of the crew, and for having committed a robbery on board, inasmuch as he is not competent to be the best judge in this matter, and may possibly have given that denomination to the fugitive slave to soften the declaration of the captain.

2. To sum up, if he is guilty of the robbery he will be judged according to the laws of the country; should he be acquitted he will regain his liberty.

Lisbon, August 31, 1855.

JOSE FERREIRA PINTO DE FONSECA TELLES.

(Signed) RODRIGO FONSECA MAGELHAES.

Department of Foreign Affairs, Lisbon, September 13, 1855.

(Signed) EMILIO ACHILLES MONTEVERDE.

No. 232.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 25, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant, inclosing copies of further correspondence respecting the negro who had run away from the Brazilian brig "Iris" at Oporto, and I have in reply to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter, and also the letter which you addressed to Mr Consul Johnston on the 6th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 233.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a Decree, granting to Manoel José da Costa Pedreira, a landed proprietor and merchant of the Island of San Thomé, permission to transport to that island from Angola 100 libertos, in the same manner as a similar grant was made to João Maria de Souza Almeida in the year 1853.

The circumstances of that grant were reported to your Lordship by Sir Richard Pakenham in his despatch of the 28th of December, 1853,* and the regulations under which the present grant is to be carried out differ but slightly from those of the 25th of October, 1853, the modifications, for the most part, being rendered necessary by the enactment of the Law for the registration of slaves, published on the 28th of December, 1854, and reported to your Lordship in Sir Richard Pakenham's despatch of the 29th of December of that year.†

The only material difference is to be found in the 4th Article of the present Decree, a translation of which is herewith inclosed, and by which it is provided that these libertos shall be embarked only at Loanda, and on board a Government vessel, to proceed direct to the Island of San Thomé.

This provision will meet the first objection suggested by Admiral Bruce, and communicated by Sir Richard Pakenham to the Portuguese Government, as reported in his despatch of the 18th of March, 1854.

As, however, the two latter objections of Admiral Bruce still subsist, I have called Viscount d'Athoguia's attention to Sir Richard Pakenham's note on the subject of the grant to Senhor Almeida, which, no doubt, was not answered in consequence of the project of Senhor Almeida being given up.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure in No. 233.

Extract from Decree published in the "Diario do Governo" of October 2, 1855.

(Translation.)

ARTICLE 4.—THE transport of libertos from Angola to San Thomé can only be effected after they have been clad in European fashion, each provided with his own passport. The transport shall take place on board a Government vessel, the transport and cost of keep being at the expense of the person to whom the concession is made, according to a tariff of rates of the Finance Junta, the libertos being treated in every respect like free passengers. The embarkation can only take place in Loanda, and the vessel must sail direct to San Thomé.

* Class B, presented 1854, No. 348.

† Ibid., presented 1855, No. 354.

No. 234.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a note addressed to me by the Viscount d'Athoguia, acquainting me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, that Manoel Feliciano Souza d'Araujo de Azevedo, and Joaquim Salvador Baptista, Judges of the Court of Relação at Loanda, are appointed to act as Commissioners and Arbitrator, respectively, of the Mixed Commission established at Loanda, and that Antonio Urbano Pereira de Castro, Clerk, Secretary, and Chief Officer of the same Court, is nominated to the office of Portuguese Secretary in the same Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure in No. 234.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, October 16, 1855.

THE Decree of the 30th December, 1852, having approved of the organization and form of administration of justice in the Provinces of Angola, San Thomé, and Principé and its dependencies, which establishes in Article 75 and its paragraphs the manner in which the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at Loanda should be composed, according to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, for the abolition of the Traffic in Slaves, I have the honour to communicate to you, for the information of your Government, that Manoel Feliciano Souza d'Araujo de Azevedo, and Joaquim Salvador Baptista, Judges of the Court of Relação at Loanda, are appointed to act as Commissioners and Arbitrator, respectively, of the Mixed Commission established at Loanda, and that Antonio Urbano Pereira de Castro, Clerk, Secretary, and Chief Officer of the same Court, is nominated to the office of Portuguese Secretary to the same Commission.

As soon as these gentlemen shall have assumed their functions, I shall have the honour of informing you.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 235.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 5.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 27, 1855.

THE Viscount d'Athoguia mentioned to me that the negro slave whose escape from the Brazilian vessel "Iris" at Oporto was reported in my despatch of August 28, had been declared, by a sentence of a Judicial Court, liable to be delivered up to the master of the vessel or his representatives.

This, his Excellency informed me, was in compliance with a law enacted in the early part of the present century, when Brazil was still a portion of the dominions of Portugal, whereby it was provided that negro slaves, entered on the register "matriculados" of any Brazilian vessel, should be apprehended and restored to the master.

The Viscount d'Athoguia informed me also that, under these circumstances, he had no other choice than to say that the law must be obeyed, but that directions had been sent to the Civil Governor to ascertain whether the persons claiming to have a property in this slave, would accept a sum of money, and desist from their claim.

Had the Cortes been sitting, his Excellency assured me that he would at

once have laid a Bill before the House to repeal the law in question. It is to be hoped, therefore, that he will redeem this pledge as soon as it is in his power.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 236.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 5.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, October 27, 1855.

MR. VICE-CONSUL MEAGHER has informed me that two papers have been presented at his office on behalf of Senhor F. A. Flores, for the purpose of procuring an authentication of the signature of the chief officer of the Foreign Department.

The first of these papers was a petition, on the part of Senhor Flores, to be furnished with a certificate from the Portuguese Secretary of State's Office for Marine and Colonies of the circumstances under which he had been compelled to quit the Province of Angola, that is to say, by the orders of the Governor-General, without any judicial proceedings having been taken against him, and for no other reason (as the petitioner is informed) than a demand made by the British Government to expel him, in consequence of his being engaged in the Slave Trade. The paper further contains the certificate granted in pursuance of this petition.

The other document was likewise a petition for a certificate to the effect that Senhor Flores had solicited leave to work a copper mine in the Province of Angola, and to introduce a hydraulic machine for extracting oil from a nut called "mendubin."

I have no doubt that it is Senhor Flores' intention to make use of these certificates in England, with a view to remove the obstacle that at present prevents the Portuguese Government from recalling the order for his expulsion from Angola.

No. 237.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 6, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th ultimo,* inclosing a copy of a Decree authorizing Manoel José de Costa Pedreira to transport 100 libertos from Angola to the Island of St. Thomas.

And I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having called the attention of Viscount d'Athoguia to the letter which Sir Richard Pakenham addressed to him on the 15th of March, 1854, pointing out certain provisions of a similar Decree, dated the 25th of October, 1853, which were then considered by Her Majesty's Government as being objectionable.

You will inform Viscount d'Athoguia that Her Majesty's Government regret to find that the regulations in question have not been amended in the Decree which has been issued in favour of Senhor Pedreira.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 238.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 8, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th ultimo,* stating that the Viscount d'Athoguia has informed you that by virtue of a Law passed at the beginning of the present century, the proper tribunal at Oporto has declared

* No. 233.

† No. 235.

that the negro slave José, who escaped from the Brazilian brig "Iris" at Oporto in August last, is liable to be delivered up to the master of the vessel or his representatives; and you state that Viscount d'Athoguia at the same time assured you, that if the Cortes had been sitting he would at once have introduced a Bill to repeal the law in question.

I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of saying to Viscount d'Athoguia that Her Majesty's Government trust that he will carry into effect this intention, and rescue Portugal from the discredit of such a law remaining in force.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 239.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 8, 1855.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 27th ultimo,* stating that it appears from a document which has been presented at the British Consulate for authentication, that Francisco Antonio Flores has solicited leave to work a copper-mine in the Province of Angola, I have to instruct you to state to the Viscount d'Athoguia, that after the numerous and undoubted proofs of the connection of Flores with the Slave Trade, Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that nothing will induce Viscount d'Athoguia to permit Flores to return to Angola.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 240.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, November 28, 1855.*

IN conformity with the instructions of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant,† I have taken an opportunity of expressing to the Viscount d'Athoguia the hope of Her Majesty's Government that his Excellency would carry into effect the intention which he had expressed to me hypothetically, of proposing to the Cortes the repeal of the Law according to which slaves forming part of the crew of Brazilian vessels, and escaping from such vessels in Portugal, are liable to be delivered up to the master of the vessel claiming them.

The Viscount d'Athoguia assured me that he would not fail to fulfil this engagement to me on the meeting of the Cortes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 241.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Ward.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 6, 1855.*

MR. GABRIEL, Her Majesty's Arbitrator at Loanda, having reported to me that in letters which he had received from the Rev. Dr. Livingston whilst on his recent journey from Loanda to Mozambique, that gentleman speaks in terms of gratitude of the kindness and hospitality which he received at the hands of the several Portuguese authorities of the Province of Angola through whose jurisdiction he passed, I have to instruct you to express to the Portuguese Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the kindness and hospitality shown to Dr. Livingston by their officers in Angola.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 242.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 8, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of the note which I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia, in compliance with the directions of your Lordship's despatch of 8th November,* expressing the hope of Her Majesty's Government that Senhor F. A. Flores might not be permitted to return to Angola.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs has replied to this appeal, by merely stating the fact that no change had been made with regard to the order for Senhor Flores' expulsion, adding that that person was taking steps to prove that he had not been engaged in slave-trading, and that he had been unjustly ordered to leave the province.

Whenever I have had occasion to speak to the Viscount d'Athoguia on this subject, it has not failed to strike me that his Excellency carefully abstained from giving me any assurance as to his intentions with regard to any application which Senhor Flores might make for the recall of the order for his expulsion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 242.

*Mr. Ward to Viscount d'Athoguia.**Lisbon, November 17, 1855.*

IN consequence of information which has been furnished to Her Majesty's Government that Senhor Francisco Antonio Flores has solicited leave to work a copper-mine in the Province of Angola, the Undersigned, &c., has been instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to state to his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia, &c., that after the numerous and undoubted proofs of the connexion of Senhor Flores with the Slave Trade, Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that nothing will induce the Viscount d'Athoguia to permit Senhor Flores to return to Angola.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM R. WARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 242.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were pleased to address to me under date of 17th November last, informing me that you had received instructions from Her Britannic Majesty's Government to express the wishes of that Government, to the effect that the Brazilian subject, Francisco Antonio Flores, may not be permitted to return to Angola, as it appears that he wishes to do, under pretext of working a copper-mine.

In answer I have to state to you, that from information obtained through the Marine Department, it appears that the order issued from that Department for the expulsion from Loanda of the said Flores, has not been altered, and that he cannot therefore return to that province. It appears, however, that this individual purposes to show that he was not engaged in the Slave Trade, and that he was unjustly expelled from thence.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 243.

Mr. Ward to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 15, 1855.

I HAD the honour on the 12th instant to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant.

I have addressed a note to the Viscount d'Athoguia, conveying the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the kindness and hospitality shown to Dr. Livingston by the officers of His Most Faithful Majesty in Angola.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WILLIAM R. WARD.

No. 244.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 3, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, December 28, 1855.

DURING a conversation which I had yesterday with the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, I remarked upon the efforts which the notorious Brazilian slave-trader Flores was said to be making with a view to obtain permission to return to Loanda, from which he had been expelled, and I thought it as well to repeat the displeasure with which Her Majesty's Government would view a compliance with his wishes on the part of the Portuguese Government.

Viscount d'Athoguia stated that Senhor Flores had not applied for the permission in question, but for the proofs of his guilt, and observed that those which had been adduced would not have been sufficient to warrant the expulsion of a Portuguese subject. His Excellency intimated that the course which was open to Senhor Flores to adopt was to address himself to his own Government, for their intervention, but that it would necessarily entail delay. He further remarked that Senhor Flores was largely interested in copper mines, which would be more profitable to him than the Slave Trade.

I replied that having myself been the medium of communicating to the Brazilian Government the expulsion of Flores as a measure likely to be agreeable to them, and knowing their feelings regarding the proceedings of the slave-traders in the Portuguese African possessions, I could not believe that they would interest themselves in his behalf, and I again deprecated on the part of Her Majesty's Government, leave being given to him at any time to return to the former field of his slave-trading operations.

I doubt not but that this warning will suffice for the present, but I will not fail to keep my attention directed to the subject.

No. 245.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 5, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th ultimo, I have to express my approval of the language which you held to Viscount d'Athoguia, in warning his Excellency against allowing Francisco Antonio Flores to return to Angola.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 246.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 12.)

(Translation.)

London, February 11, 1856.

THE Vth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, concluded between Her Most Faithful Majesty and Her Britannic Majesty for the complete abolition of the Slave Trade, regulates the number of slaves by whom each Portuguese colonist may be accompanied when he definitively changes his residence from one Portuguese Possession on the coast of Africa to another on any part of the said coast or the adjacent islands. Nothing, however, is regulated in the said Treaty relative to the conveyance of slaves from one point of any of the above-mentioned Possessions to another point of the same Possession. But there has been no doubt whatever, from the conclusion of the above Treaty to this time, that when Portuguese subjects passed from one point to another of the same Possession it continued to be lawful, as it was before the Treaty, for them to be accompanied by a part, or even the whole, of their slaves. And no objection whatever having been made to this practice, and to this interpretation given to the aforesaid Treaty, during almost fourteen years, it cannot assuredly be in unison with the principles of justice, that, without a preceding agreement between the two High Contracting Powers, a subaltern agent of either of the two Governments should dare to disturb a practice which has not been interrupted since the conclusion of the Treaty, and should arrogate to himself the right of interpreting it—a right which appertains solely to the Sovereigns of the two respective States, the only interpreters of the Treaties concluded between them.

Notwithstanding the truth of these unquestionable principles, the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty has understood that Commodore Adams had declared that he was resolved to detain and to give orders to detain any Portuguese ship which, navigating from one port to another port of the same Portuguese Possession situated on the coast of Africa, should have on board slaves belonging to Portuguese subjects.

In view of this unusual declaration, made by an incompetent person, in opposition to the interpretation given during nearly fourteen years to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, the Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Most Faithful Majesty with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, received orders from his Government to address his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., to protest against the said declaration made by Commodore Adams; the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty reserving to itself thenceforward the right, in case the said declaration should be carried into effect, to demand just reparation for the wrongful interpretation of the Treaty, and indemnification for the losses which Portuguese subjects might sustain in consequence of this wrongful interpretation.

The Government of His Most Faithful Majesty is not of opinion that advantage can be taken of the practice above mentioned (especially after the publication of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854), to protect, directly or indirectly, the infamous Slave Trade; but if the contrary should be proved, the Undersigned is authorized to assure his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is ready to regulate, by an Additional Article to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, or by any other mode, the forms which might be observed, and even the number of slaves by whom each Portuguese subject might be accompanied, when he should remove, definitively or temporarily, from one point to another of the same Portuguese Possession situated on the coast of Africa, or in the islands of the same.

The Undersigned is aware that his Excellency cannot but observe that it would be absurd if it were allowed to the colonist, when he removed from one Possession to another, to be accompanied by a certain number of slaves, and if this same permission were not granted to one who, without leaving the Possession in which he resided, should scarcely change his domicile, especially when this practice was not restricted by the Treaty, and was in existence during nearly the fourteen years preceding. Nevertheless the Undersigned, knowing the ardent wish of the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty to cooperate with that of Her Britannic Majesty, by all the means in its power, in the

complete abolition of the infamous Slave Trade, does not only not refuse to interpret always in the most liberal sense the Treaty concluded between the two Sovereigns, but even to add to it any Articles which may conduce to the attainment of the great object which the two Governments of His Most Faithful Majesty and Her Britannic Majesty have set before them, the abolition of the Traffic, and, as speedily as it may be possible, of the state of slavery, which the Government of Her Britannic Majesty has had already the means and the good fortune to be able to effect in her dominions; a noble and great example which the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty intends to follow, so soon as it may be duly enabled to do so, without doing injury to rights acquired *bond fide*, or exposing her dominions beyond the seas to commotions which might lead to misfortunes difficult to be repaired.

The Undersigned is assured that Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and in particular his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, does full justice to the firmness with which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is resolved religiously to maintain the execution of all the Articles of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

LAVRADIO.

No. 247.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 16, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing some observations with regard to the effect produced in that colony by the publication of the Portuguese Decree of the 14th of December, 1854, which provides for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves, and inclosing copies of a correspondence between the Municipal Chamber of Loanda and the Governor-General on the subject of the Decree in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 248.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 16, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, inclosing copies of their correspondence with the Governor-General of that province, relative to a recent case of shipment from thence of some slaves for the Island of St. Thomas on board the American barque "*Seamew*."

As there can be no doubt that the transaction reported by Her Majesty's Commissioners was a violation of the Vth Article of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty with Portugal of 1842, I have to instruct you to bring this case to the notice of the Portuguese Government, and to request that such instructions may be given to the Governor-General of Angola as will prevent a recurrence of similar infractions of the Treaty for the future.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

* Class A, No. 76.

† Ibid., No. 75.

No. 249.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 28.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 16, 1856.

SIR RICHARD PAKENHAM, in his despatch of the 8th of January, 1855,* had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a translation of the Decree of the Portuguese Government of the 14th of the preceding month of December, for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions.

This Decree having been issued under the responsibility of Viscount d'Athoguia, as Minister of the Colonies, whilst the Cortes were not sitting, and therefore requiring their subsequent sanction, has been submitted to the Chamber of Deputies, and came under discussion on the 14th and 15th instants.

On this occasion Senhor Alfonso de Castro proposed two amendments, the first being to extend to the slaves belonging to Municipal Chambers, and to the charitable institutions called "Misericordias," the freedom which is stipulated by the single paragraph in Article VI of the Decree, for all slaves belonging to the State; the second being to expunge Article XXIX, with its single paragraph, of which the following is the text :—

"All slaves who, under any circumstances, obtain their liberty, enter at once into the class of liberated negroes, and become subject to the public guardianship of the Board.

§ "Such slaves as obtain their liberty through the general provisions of the law, as enacted in the clause of Article VI of this Decree, are bound to serve the State for seven years, under the provision of the Regulation of the 25th of October, 1853."

Senhor de Castro observed, in support of his amendments, that slavery was condemned by philanthropy and religion; neither was it a necessity in the present age, when so many means of promoting agriculture and industry had been discovered. It was argued, he said, that the Municipalities and the "Misericordias" could not be deprived of their rights of property, but, according to the same principle, slavery ought not to exist, because it deprives slaves of the right of using their own strength and intelligence; moreover, the Municipalities could only gain by the emancipation of their slaves, because free labour is much more productive; and the "Misericordias" by so doing would be fulfilling the most beneficial precept of their institution. His wish was to see slaves placed in the immediate possession of their freedom, without passing through the state of liberated negroes; a condition, for the most part, worse than slavery, and it was with this view he had brought forward his second proposal.

Some objections were offered to these amendments by Senhor Tavares de Macedo, who contended, that although every one was agreed as to the necessity of putting an end to slavery in the transmarine provinces of Portugal, this was a matter in which there ought to be no precipitate proceedings, because not only the rights of property, and the interests of agriculture and commerce, but likewise the interests of the slaves themselves—who, if suddenly restored to their liberty, would not know what use to make of it—should be attended to.

Another Deputy, Senhor Moraes de Carvalho, who, whilst he professed his wish for as early as possible an abolition of slavery, dwelt on the necessity of proceeding gradually towards that end, proposed to limit the alteration in Article XXIX of the Decree, to striking out in the single paragraph the words "seven years," as the term during which the liberated negroes should be bound to servitude, his object being to curtail its duration.

Finally, at the close of the discussion on the 11th instant, Senhor de Castro's above-mentioned amendment to Article VI of the Decree, extending the number of slaves to be liberated, was adopted, whilst that which he had brought forward for the erasure of the whole of Article XXIX was rejected. On the other hand, Senhor Carvalho's proposal in regard to the single paragraph of that Article was approved of.

The Decree, so amended, received the sanction of the Chamber, and will be sent up to the House of Peers.

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 355.

At an interview which I had this day with Viscount d'Athoguia, I expressed to him the satisfaction with which I had seen the addition made by the Chamber to the class of slaves liberated in virtue of the Decree, but at the same time my regret that the clause whereby that class would have been placed in the possession of complete freedom had not been passed. With regard to Senhor de Carvalho's amendment, I could not, I said, but applaud the object it had in view, of shortening the term of servitude of the liberated negroes, but as the effect of the erasure of the words "seven years" in the single paragraph of Article XXIX, would be to leave that term indefinite, I thought the amended wording of the paragraph was open to objection in principle, and I therefore considered it advisable that some shorter definite period should be fixed, beyond which such servitude should not be permitted to be prolonged, whilst the power of terminating it at once, or at any previous period, should be retained.

Viscount d'Athoguia admitted that, in point of form, my remark was not without justice, and he said he would see whether any alteration could be made when the wording of the law was settled in Committee; but he could assure me that, in the execution of the law, the intention with which the amendment had been introduced, should be fully carried out in favour of the slaves.

His Excellency took this opportunity of repeating to me his wish to see slavery entirely abolished in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions, and his hopes that so desirable an end could gradually be arrived at.

He said that his intention was directed towards a question which had formerly been under the consideration of the Government—viz., that of declaring every child born of slave parents free from the time of its birth. He had explained at the time to Sir Richard Pakenham the motives of humanity founded upon the fear of the dangerous consequences to the children, if the master of their parents were divested of all interest in the former, which had deterred the Government from having recourse to that measure; he should, however, again confer on the subject with persons interesting themselves in the emancipation of the slaves.

I replied that I was not insensible to the ill effects which might result in some individual cases from the measure, but still I considered that its general advantages so greatly counterbalanced any partial unfavourable consequences, and that it would constitute so important a step towards total emancipation, that I earnestly hoped His Most Faithful Majesty's Government would not hesitate now to adopt it.

I have not entered more fully into the reasons alleged by Viscount d'Athoguia for not proposing an enactment of the nature above referred to, as they were identical with those reported in Sir Richard Pakenham's despatch of the 8th of January, 1855, transmitting the Decree in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 250.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 28.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 18, 1856.

ON the 15th instant the Viscount d'Athoguia addressed to me a note, of which I have the honour to transmit a translation, acquainting me that the Portuguese member of the Mixed Commission at Loanda had obtained permission to return to Portugal on leave of absence, on account of his bad state of health.

His Excellency also informs me that as the Portuguese Arbitrator is now also absent on leave, orders are about to be sent to fill up the vacancy, according to the terms of the 3rd Section of Article X of Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, until the Court of Relação at Loanda shall be constituted; the magistrates of which Court are authorized to act as the Portuguese officers in the Mixed Commission, according to the announcement made by the Viscount d'Athoguia in his note to Mr. Ward of the 16th October of last year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD

Inclosure in No. 250.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Palace, February 15, 1856.

THE Portuguese Commissioner in the Mixed Commission established at Loanda having represented to this Department that the precarious state of his health would not permit him to continue to reside in that colony, His Majesty the King has been pleased to accede to his request, and to grant him permission to return to this kingdom.

In making you acquainted with this resolution of the same august person, I have to inform you that as the Portuguese Arbitrator is also absent on leave, the necessary orders are about to be issued for providing for this emergency, in accordance with the provisions contained in the 3rd Section of Article X of the Annex B to the Treaty of 1842, until such time as the Court of Appeal (*Relação*) of Loanda shall be constituted, the members of which will act on the part of Portugal in the said Mixed Commission, in conformity with the Decree of the 30th of December, 1852, which formed the subject of my note of the 16th of October of last year.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 251.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 1, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th instant,* reporting a discussion in the Chamber of Deputies upon the subject of the Decree of the 14th of December, 1854, which provides for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the observations made by you to Viscount d'Athoguia with reference to this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 252.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 28, 1856.

YOUR Lordship having, by your despatch of the 16th instant,† placed me in possession of the correspondence, as annexed to the despatch of the 12th of November last, of Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, between the Municipal Chamber of that place and the Governor-General, relative to the Portuguese Decree of the 14th of December, 1854, for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves, I took an opportunity of inquiring of the Viscount d'Athoguia whether he had taken any steps in the matter.

His Excellency replied, that he had already transmitted to the Governor-General an approval of his conduct in refusing to accede to the application of the Municipal Chamber for the suspension and alteration of the Decree; the only modification of it which he had authorised Senhor Amaral to introduce, being a reduction of the registration fees.

Viscount d'Athoguia was unable to say whether the petitions on the same subject from the Municipal Chamber to the King and the Cortes, the transmission of which had been announced, had reached this country or not.

In the meantime, as your Lordship is aware, the Decree has been sanctioned by the Chamber of Deputies, and will, no doubt, likewise pass in the Chamber of Peers.

* No. 249.

† No. 247.

Viscount d'Athoguia informed me to-day that, having communicated to the Deputy who had proposed the amendment according to which the period of seven years for the servitude of the liberated negroes was struck out of the 29th Article of the Decree, my remark, as reported in my despatch of the 16th instant, that the term of such servitude would, according to the altered wording, appear to be indefinite, the Deputy in question, Senhor Carvalho, had replied that such would not be the case, as it would be determined by the Regulations of the 24th of October, 1853, which are quoted in the Article.

On looking over these Regulations, I find that, although, according to Article 10, the period of service for liberated negroes is fixed at seven years, yet, according to Article 11, those who, for a period of six years, have invariably behaved well, shall be released from further service.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 253.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 7.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 28, 1856.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant,* inclosing the copy of a despatch of the 29th of October last from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, covering copies of their correspondence with the Governor-General of the Province of Angola relative to a recent case of a shipment from thence of some slaves for the Island of St. Thomas on board the American barque "Seamew," I have the honour of transmitting herewith a copy of the note which, in execution of your Lordship's instructions, I addressed on the 25th instant to Viscount d'Athoguia, bringing that case under his Excellency's notice as involving a violation of the Vth Article of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty with Portugal of 1842, and requesting that such instructions may be given to the Governor-General as will prevent a recurrence of similar infractions of the Treaty for the future.

Your Lordship will perceive that I have referred to the previous request for the issue of instructions to the Portuguese authorities at Angola calculated to meet cases like that in question, which was preferred by Sir Richard Pakenham in his note to the Viscount d'Athoguia of the 19th of January of last year, a copy of which was inclosed in his despatch of that date to your Lordship.†

I have likewise, on two occasions since the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, urged verbally upon Viscount d'Athoguia the request which I have been charged to make to him, but I did not find him disposed to admit our construction of the Vth Article of the Treaty.

His Excellency observed that the term of "*bond fide* household servants," used in it with reference to the slaves by whom a settler is permitted to be accompanied on his definitive removal from the Portuguese possessions on the coast of Africa to one of the specified islands, could not have been intended to apply merely to in-door servants, because, if it had, there would have been no object in allowing him so large a number as 10, which would be quite out of proportion with the wants, for domestic purposes, of the class to whom a settler belongs; but that it must likewise have been meant to include servants to be employed in agriculture, of whom a settler stood most in need.

His Excellency likewise contended that the latter interpretation was borne out by the acceptation of the words in Portuguese.

I replied, that it appeared to me impossible to convey a meaning more clearly by words than was done, both in the English and Portuguese text of the Article in question, which I read over with his Excellency, and which I said did not admit of any other than a literal interpretation; that the object of permitting a settler to take as many as 10 slaves with him as household servants was, no doubt, to make him as liberal an allowance as possible; and that I trusted his Excellency would not raise a discussion on this question, upon which the opinion of Her Majesty's Government was so decided, but would be so good as to transmit the orders for which I had applied to the Governor-General.

* No. 248.

† Class B, presented 1855, No. 358.

Viscount d'Athoguia rejoined, that I was not to consider the observations he had made to me as his official reply ; and that, before he answered my note, he would not fail to study the question attentively. He added, that his own wish would be that all negroes transported to the islands should be previously liberated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 253.

Mr. Howard to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Lisbon, February 25, 1856.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, in compliance with the instructions which he has received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour of bringing to the notice of his Excellency Viscount d'Athoguia, His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the case of a shipment of slaves from Loanda for the Island of St. Thomas, which has been reported by Her Majesty's Commissioners, and which involves an infraction of the 5th Article of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It appears that in the month of August last Her Majesty's Commissioners learnt that an individual had arrived at Loanda from the Island of St. Thomas, with the avowed object of procuring as many slaves as possible, for the purpose of employing them in agriculture, on an estate belonging to a principal landed proprietor in that island, and very shortly afterwards they heard that he had returned thither on board an American vessel, in company with another individual who figured as a settler, taking with him 10 slaves.

The accuracy of the information thus received by Her Majesty's Commissioners was confirmed to them by the statement contained in the official "Boletim," No. 516, of the 18th of August, of the sailing on the 18th of that month of the American barque "Seamew" for St. Thomas, with D. M. de Castro, merchant, and M. A. de Oliveira, settler (colono), and 10 slaves, amongst the passengers.

According to the statements of Her Majesty's Commissioners, the first of these individuals, D. M. de Castro, is the person who arrived from St. Thomas, as above mentioned, and who is connected, either as agent or partner, with the landed proprietor in question, Manoel José da Costa Pedreira ; whilst the second, Manoel Antonio de Oliveira, is the man who appears to have been engaged by the former to figure as the owner of the 10 slaves.

This Manoel Antonio de Oliveira, originally a convict, was enlisted in the corps of Sappers and Miners, and obtained his discharge last year at Benguella, from which place he repaired to Loanda, where he was lately keeping a grog-shop.

It is evident that such a man was not the owner of the slaves, and cannot be considered as a settler, in the sense in which that term is employed in the Vth Article of the Treaty of 1842.

With regard to the 10 slaves, it does not even seem to have been pretended that they were household servants, in which *bonâ fide* character they could alone, according to the express stipulation of the same Article, be exported. In view of the intelligence which had reached Her Majesty's Commissioners respecting this transaction, they brought it in the first instance verbally under the notice of the Governor-General, and subsequently Sir George Jackson addressed, on the 4th of September last, to his Excellency, the letter of which the Undersigned has the honour of inclosing a copy, requesting to be furnished with such particulars as might enable him to satisfy Her Majesty's Government that it had not involved a departure from the Vth Article of the Treaty of 1842, intimating, however, his opinion that such a contravention had taken place.

From Senhor do Amaral's reply of the 7th of September, a copy of which is also hereto annexed, Viscount d'Athoguia will perceive that his Excellency gave his permission for the shipment of the 10 slaves, knowing that they were

not, as required by the Treaty, *bonâ fide* household servants, but were intended to be employed as field labourers, and consequently, that his Excellency, acting apparently under an erroneous view of the stipulations contained in the Vth Article of the Treaty, allowed of a deviation from them in the case under discussion.

With respect to the settler who figured as the owner of the slaves, Her Majesty's Commissioners, writing to the Earl of Clarendon on the 29th of October, maintain that the Governor-General has been misinformed concerning his real character, and uphold the accuracy of the intelligence they had received concerning him as given above, and which they state to have been confirmed by the result of their subsequent inquiries.

Under these circumstances, Her Majesty's Government, considering the shipment of the slaves in question to be an unquestionable violation of the provisions of the Vth Article of the Treaty of 1842, have directed the Undersigned to urge His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to send such instructions to the Governor-General of Angola as will prevent a recurrence of similar infractions of the Treaty for the future.

The Undersigned, in thus fulfilling the orders of Her Majesty's Government, begs to remind his Excellency Viscount d'Athoguia that this is not the first time that a similar application has been addressed to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and to refer to the note which Sir Richard Pakenham had the honour of addressing to his Excellency on the 19th of January of last year, urging, with reference to certain orders which had already been forwarded to the authorities at Angola, the transmission of further instructions, with a view to prevent the removal of other slaves from that colony than *bonâ fide* household servants.

The Undersigned takes the liberty, at the same time, of remarking, that if the request thus preferred by Sir Richard Pakenham had been acted upon, he would not, probably, have been under the necessity of making the present application to his Excellency.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 254.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Lavradio.

M. le Comte,

Foreign Office, March 12, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which you did me the honour to address to me on the 11th ultimo, complaining that Commodore Adams, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the West African Station, has announced his intention of detaining Portuguese vessels employed in carrying slaves, the property of any Portuguese colonist who may be proceeding from one port to another of the Portuguese possessions on the coast of Africa; and I have the honour to acquaint you, in reply, that no information has yet been received at this office respecting the declaration in question, which is alleged to have been made by Commodore Adams, but I have requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to call upon Commodore Adams for a report of the circumstances under which he had determined to adopt the course of which you complain, and as soon as his report shall be received I shall have the honour to address to you a further communication upon this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 255.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 8, 1856.

WITH reference to Mr. Ward's correspondence of last year with your Lordship relative to the case of the negro who had escaped from the Brazilian brig "Iris," at Oporto, I have the honour of inclosing the copy of a despatch

of the 27th ultimo, which I have received from Mr. Johnston, Her Majesty's Consul at that port, reporting that the negro in question was on the 23rd ultimo put on board of a vessel which he erroneously supposes to have been the "Iris," but which was another Brazilian ship, and, that having endeavoured to regain his liberty by force, he was wounded and overpowered, and conveyed to the hospital of the Oporto jail.

In the sitting of the Chamber of Peers of the 29th ultimo, some interpellations were addressed by Viscount Sá da Bandeira and by Count Thomar on this subject to the Minister of the Interior, who stated that the wish of the Government had been to give the slave his liberty, but that the judicial tribunals had decided that he ought to be given up to his owner, and it was on the occasion of his having been put on board of a vessel by the authorities in order to be conveyed to Brazil, that the scene to which reference had been made took place.

When I saw Viscount d'Athoguia on the 5th instant, I called his attention to the report made to me by Mr. Consul Johnston, and observed to him that after what had taken place, it would be barbarity to make another attempt to give up the slave, who would no doubt be exposed to very cruel punishment from his master, and I urged his Excellency to endeavour to carry out an intention he had formerly announced to Mr. Ward of purchasing the negro's liberty.

Viscount d'Athoguia, after repeating the intention which had been entertained by the Government of liberating the slave, and the circumstances under which they had been obliged to abandon it, as reported by Mr. Ward in his despatch of the 27th of October last, stated that he had already conveyed to the Brazilian Minister, Senhor Monteiro, who had claimed the extradition of the negro, the wish of the Portuguese Government to buy his liberty of his master in Brazil, and that Senhor Monteiro had promised to write to his Government with a view to endeavour to effect that object.

Upon my pressing his Excellency to renew that proposal to the Brazilian Minister, he replied that he did not consider it necessary he should do so after the communication he had already made to him, but suggested that I should speak on the subject to Senhor Monteiro, which I have undertaken to do.

I have not failed frequently to remind Viscount d'Athoguia of his promise to propose to the Cortes the repeal of the law in virtue of which the negro in question was ordered to be given up, as forming part of the crew of a Brazilian vessel, and he has always answered by assuring me of his intention to do so.

In the meantime, I am happy to say that Viscount Sá has introduced a bill with that object into the Chamber of Peers, with which Viscount d'Athoguia has expressed his concurrence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 255.

Consul Johnston to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

Oporto, February 27, 1856.

WITH reference to my previous letters, and to Mr. Ward's despatches of the 6th and 22nd of September last, respecting a negro who had escaped from the Brazilian brig "Iris," I beg to inform you that the negro in question was, on the 23rd instant, put on board of that vessel, which then lay in the Douro; and that having endeavoured to regain his liberty by force, he was wounded and overpowered, and conveyed to the hospital of the Oporto jail, where he still lies.

I am informed that the man was delivered over by the Civil Governor of Oporto on the 29th of December last, not as a criminal (no proof having appeared that he had committed the robbery with which he was charged), to the Brazilian Vice-Consul here, by whom he was kept in the jail of the *Relação*, and at whose request the escort put him on board of the "Iris," that he might be given to the persons in Rio de Janeiro who claim him as their property.

No. 256.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 8, 1856.

MR. JERNINGHAM, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, having informed me of the recent capture, by a Brazilian cruizer, of the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," with a cargo of slaves on board, as well as of a previous landing of slaves in Brazil, I called the attention of Viscount d'Athoguia, at an interview which I had with him on the 6th instant, to these facts, as proving the determination of the slave-traders to renew the Brazilian Traffic, and I urged his Excellency to transmit fresh instructions to the Portuguese authorities on the coast of Africa to take effective measures for frustrating their plans, and preventing the sailing of slave-trading expeditions.

I also pressed the expediency of a strict watch being kept by the police over the proceedings of the slave-traders who had been expelled from Brazil and were now residing at Lisbon.

His Excellency replied that there was no necessity for sending any new orders such as I had solicited, as the Portuguese authorities at Angola were already provided with the requisite instructions, and were besides very zealous in their endeavours to suppress the Traffic; the coast was, however, a very extended one, and was consequently difficult to watch, particularly with the small number of vessels employed on it. He added, that he had sent a new cruizer to Angola only the other day; and he remarked, at the same time, upon the reduction which had taken place in Her Majesty's squadron in those waters.

With regard to the second request I have preferred, he said there was no evidence that the persons to whom I had alluded were now engaged in the Slave Trade, that they had invested a good deal of capital in Portuguese securities, and that the Government had very slender means at their disposal for police purposes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 257.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sri,

Foreign Office, March 19, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant,* stating that the negro slave José who escaped from the Brazilian brig "*Iris*" at Oporto in August 1855, was, on the 23rd ultimo, put on board a vessel in order to be sent home to his master, and that José having endeavoured to regain his liberty he was wounded and taken back to prison.

I have to acquaint you that I approve of the representations which you have made to Viscount d'Athoguia upon this matter, and of your having undertaken to request the intervention of the Brazilian Minister at Lisbon, in order that the Portuguese Government may be enabled to purchase the freedom of José.

I have, at the same time, to instruct you to say to Viscount d'Athoguia that Her Majesty's Government are glad to learn that he has expressed his concurrence in the Bill which you state that Viscount Sá has introduced into the Chamber of Peers for the repeal of the law under which the Brazilian Minister was empowered to claim the surrender of the negro in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 255.

No. 258.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 19, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant,* and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having informed Viscount d'Athoguia of the attempts which have been made to renew the Slave Trade in Brazil, and of your having urged his Excellency to impress upon the Portuguese authorities in Angola and elsewhere, the necessity of exerting fresh vigilance for the prevention of slave-trading expeditions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 259.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 25.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 14, 1856.

THE Brazilian Minister at this Court, Senhor Maciel Monteiro, called upon me on the 9th instant, and stated, that in the execution of the general instructions which he had received from his Government to cooperate with his English colleague on Slave Trade matters, and with which he had great pleasure in complying, he had come to communicate to me some despatches which had reached him by the last mail from his Government.

He accordingly read to me two despatches from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Paranhos, dated the 9th ultimo.

The first despatch acquaints Senhor Monteiro with the measures which were taken by the Brazilian Government, on the requisition of Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, in respect to a notorious individual, of the name of Antonio Severino de Avellar, a Portuguese, suspected of having been connected with the landing of slaves which took place at Serinhaem, near Pernambuco, last autumn; these measures consisting in his arrest and prosecution, and the order for his eventual expulsion from the Empire.

Senhor Monteiro stated that hitherto no complaint or inquiry had been addressed to him by the Portuguese Government on the subject of Avellar, but he should now be in a position to reply to any questions that might be put to him.

I acquainted him that I had myself spoken some time ago to Viscount d'Athoguia on the subject, and that after hearing my statement, his Excellency had observed, that if Avellar was a slave-trader, the Brazilian Government were at liberty to do what they liked with him.

The second despatch announces the clandestine departure, from Rio de Janeiro, on board the patacho "Maria," for Loanda, by way of Mossamedes and Benguella, of Francisco José da Rosa, who is likewise suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and whose present voyage is believed to be connected with it, and directs Senhor Monteiro to come to a confidential understanding with the Portuguese Government, in order that his proceedings in those Portuguese possessions may be watched; and likewise to instruct the Brazilian Consular Agents in Portugal to be on the look-out, in case he should visit any port of the kingdom.

Senhor Monteiro told me that he had been induced more particularly to communicate this despatch to me, because there was no Brazilian Consul at present at Loanda; Senhor Nogueira de Gama, who had recently received that appointment in the room of Senhor Niteroy, not having yet proceeded to his post; and because he thought it might be desirable that Her Majesty's Agents at Loanda should be made acquainted with its contents, and instructed to keep a watch over Francisco da Rosa.

I did not fail to thank Senhor Monteiro for his obliging communication, and to repeat the assurances I had already given him, in answer to the analogous

* No. 256.

declarations I had previously received from him of the gratification it would always afford me to cooperate with him, as I had been in the habit of doing with his Government, whilst I was at Rio de Janeiro, towards the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I told him that as I had no opportunity at present of corresponding directly with Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, I would transmit to your Lordship the information he had imparted to me relative to Da Rosa.

Senhor Monteiro informed me yesterday that he had complied with the instructions of his Government as above stated, and that Viscount d'Athoguia had undertaken to send the desired instructions concerning Da Rosa to the Portuguese authorities on the West Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 260.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 25.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, March 14, 1856.

I TOOK the opportunity of the interview which I had on the 9th instant with my Brazilian colleague, Senhor Monteiro, referred to in my preceding despatch of this date, to speak to him on the subject of the negro called José Maria, who escaped from the Brazilian schooner "Iris," at Oporto, last year, and to relate to him what passed between Viscount d'Athoguia and myself regarding it on the 6th instant, as reported in my despatch of the 8th instant.

Senhor Monteiro stated, on his part, that when the occurrence in question took place, he had reluctantly been obliged, in consequence of the application which had been made to him, to claim the extradition of the negro, in virtue of the unrepealed Decree, of which the Portuguese Government were not in the first instance cognizant, providing for the delivery to their owners of fugitive slaves entered upon the registers of Brazilian vessels entering Portuguese ports; that in consequence, however, of the wish which Viscount d'Athoguia had expressed to purchase José Maria's liberty, he had written at the time to the Brazilian Vice-Consul at Oporto to endeavour to effect that object, but the "Iris" had sailed in the meantime, and the master's attorney had not sufficient powers to enable him to sell the slave; that he had, therefore, recommended the affair to his own Government in order that they might communicate with his owner in Brazil, and had likewise, with a view to obviate the recurrence of similar cases, urged his Government to take measures for preventing the embarkation of slaves on board vessels bound for this country—a request with which his Government had complied by giving the necessary orders to the competent authorities in Brazil; and that since the scene which had recently taken place at Oporto when José Maria was embarked by force on board a Brazilian vessel in order to be conveyed to Brazil, and to which I had referred, he had written to the Brazilian Vice-Consul at that port, and had taken it upon his own responsibility to say that, come what might, the slave should be set free and not be exported to Brazil, and that the sum of money which was being collected at Oporto, according to the last accounts, by private individuals in order to buy his freedom, should be accepted in order to compensate the owner.

Senhor Monteiro added, that if that sum should fall short of what would be a reasonable indemnity, he would avail himself of the renewed offer which Viscount d'Athoguia had authorized me to make him, to purchase the liberty of the slave, and should apply to his Excellency for the deficiency, by which means matters would be facilitated.

Senhor Monteiro informed me yesterday, that since my interview with him on the 9th instant, Viscount d'Athoguia had called upon him to acquaint him that the Portuguese Government were desirous that the purchase should be their act, and to request that the preference in regard to it might be given to them over the private individuals who had opened a subscription with a view of effecting it, and that he had accordingly written again to the Brazilian Vice-Consul at

Oporto, directing him to arrange the matter with the Civil Governor of that city, who had been instructed by the Portuguese Government to conclude the purchase.

I afterwards saw Viscount d'Athoguia, who gave me a similar account of the transaction.

No. 261.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 26, 1856.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a report* addressed by Commander Nolloth, of Her Majesty's ship "Frolic," to Commodore Trotter, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the Cape of Good Hope Station, on the cessation of trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in the Mozambique Channel, and on other subjects connected with that Traffic.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 262.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 29, 1856.

I TRANSMIT, herewith, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, complaining of the conduct of the masters of two Portuguese vessels, named the "General Rego" and the "Emilia," towards several liberated Africans whom they had engaged to convey from Bahia to Lagos.

It is to be presumed that the men whose deplorable fate is briefly related in the inclosed despatch, must have toiled through several years of hard slavery in Brazil before they earned their liberation and obtained sufficient means to purchase an outfit and to pay their passage back to Africa; and it is a peculiarly heartrending circumstance that on reaching the coast of their native country, after so many hardships, 40 of them were forced on shore within the power of a merciless tyrant who put them to death, and that 15 others were plundered by the master of the vessel, and exposed to the imminent risk of being again sold as slaves.

I have directed Mr. Jerminham to make a representation to the Brazilian Government upon this affair, and although it may be doubtful whether the two Portuguese shipmasters who have been guilty of these acts of inhumanity can be made amenable to the laws of their country, yet I have to instruct you to communicate to Viscount d'Athoguia the contents of Consul Campbell's despatch, and to say that I feel confident that the Portuguese Government will readily take any steps in this matter which may serve to stigmatize such heartless conduct with the reprobation which it deserves.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 263.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th instant,‡ stating that Senhor Maciel Monteiro, the Brazilian Minister at Lisbon, had communicated to you, by direction of his Government, information respecting the order given by

* Class A, No. 107.

† No. 29.

‡ No. 259.

that Government for the expulsion from Brazil of the Portuguese slave-dealer Antonio Severino de Avellar, and also respecting the clandestine departure from Rio de Janeiro to Loanda of Francisco José da Rosa.

I have to inform you that I have directed Mr. Jerningham to thank the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs for having instructed Senhor Monteiro to make the above communication to you, and that I will transmit to Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, by the first opportunity which may occur, Senhor Monteiro's information with regard to Francisco José da Rosa.

You will express to Senhor Monteiro the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for his communication.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 264.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 31, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 14th instant,* I have to instruct you to express to Viscount d'Athoguia the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government has learnt the decision which has been come to by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty to purchase the freedom of José Maria, the fugitive slave who escaped from the Brazilian schooner "Iris" at Oporto.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 260.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Cape Verds.*

No. 265.

Consul Miller to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received April 13.*)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, Cape Verds, March 29, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that Her Majesty's steam-vessel of war "Scourge," Commodore Adams, arrived at this port on the 25th instant, and that, immediately upon replenishing his stock of coals from the Royal Mail Steam-Packet Company's depôt at this place, proceeded to Bissão; at which place it seems that the slave-traders, encouraged by the absence of cruisers from the northern part of this station of the West Coast of Africa, are actively re-forming their plans for future operations for their Traffic in Slaves.

Commodore Adams requested me to state to your Lordship that he intended to place a cruiser permanently on this part of the coast, in order at once to check there this growing evil.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS MILLER.

No. 266.

Consul Miller to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received May 14.*)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, Cape Verds, April 23, 1855.

I BEG to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Administrador do Conselho of this island, regarding an application made at this Consulate for advice by some poor people belonging to this place, as to what should be done to obtain information respecting the fate of a woman named Antonia Thereza da Graça, an inhabitant of this island, who had entered, in August last, into service in the family of an Englishman, the chief engineer on board the Brazilian steam-vessel "Tocantines," of whom no intelligence had been received until a few days since, when it was stated that she had been sold into slavery, together with her child.

I have been assured by the Administrador do Conselho that every exertion will be made to obtain the desired information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS MILLER.

Inclosure in No. 266.

Consul Miller to Senhor Correia.

Sir,

St. Vincent, Cape Verds, April 10, 1855.

IN the absence of his Excellency the Governor-General of this Province, I have the honour to address myself to you, Sir, in order to communicate the

tenour of some inquiries made at this Consulate, involving matters which appear to require an investigation by the proper authorities.

On the 12th of August last, a Brazilian merchant steam-vessel called the "Tocantines," Captain H. Borges, touched at this port, bound to Rio de Janeiro, and took away a young mulatto free woman, named Antonio Thereza da Graça, together with her child, natives of this island; she having voluntarily engaged herself, on consideration of receiving a monthly stipend of eight milreis, to enter into the service of the chief engineer, an Englishman, whose wife required her services as wet-nurse, and under the promise that, when she desired to return to this her country, a free passage should be afforded to her.

A few days since, two of her relatives applied to me, inquiring what steps they ought to take in order to relieve the great anxiety they felt, as they had received a message from her, complaining that she and her child had both been sold into slavery.

The bearer is one of these relatives, whom I have assured that you will do what is necessary in this case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS MILLER.

No. 267.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Miller.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 23rd April last, respecting the alleged sale into slavery, at Rio de Janeiro, of a free mulatto woman, named Antonia Thereza da Graça, belonging to the Island of St. Vincent, I transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch* from Mr. Jerningham, &c., reporting the result of the inquiries which he had been instructed to make into the fate of the person in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 268.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Miller.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 20, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the case of the mulatto woman, Antonia Thereza da Graça, of the Island of St. Vincent, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, by which you will perceive that the woman in question has not been reduced to slavery, but is living, of her own free will, with a family near Rio.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 269.

Consul Miller to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, Cape Verds, January 3, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 26th October and the 20th November, containing full information relative to the case of Antonia Thereza da Graça, the mulatto woman belonging to this place, most satisfactorily proving that the allegation that she and her child had been reduced to slavery, is entirely without foundation.

In order at once to allay the mischievous impressions which this false

* No. 105.

† No. 111.

charge had generally created, I have made the refutation of it as public as possible; and I have read over to the relatives of Antonia Thereza da Graça a translation of the documents sent to me by your Lordship from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro. I also laid them before his Excellency the Governor-General of this province, who expressed his acknowledgments very warmly for the zealous interest evinced by Her Majesty's Government in eliciting the truth in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOMAS MILLER.

SARDINIA.

No. 270.

Mr. Hudson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Turin, March 24, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant,* upon the case of the slaver "*Sansone*," I have the honour to request that your Lordship will be pleased to inform me whether the citation of the master and owners of that vessel, as against Captain Layton, her captor, and Lieutenant Glynn, the prize officer, was ever served upon either of those officers, as the primary step in the action for damages now pending before the tribunal at Genoa against the captor.

I have had the honour to call the attention of the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs to this case; and, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, I have placed in his Excellency's hands the copy of Sir Ralph Abercromby's despatch of the 24th of December, 1845.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES HUDSON.

No. 271.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 25, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 24th ultimo, inquiring whether Captain Layton or Lieutenant Glynn had ever been served with citations from the master and owners of the Sardinian vessel "*Sansone*," in connection with the action pending in the Admiralty Court at Genoa against the captors of that vessel, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter and of its inclosures from the Admiralty, by which it appears that neither of those officers have been served with any legal summons on the part of the master and owners of the "*Sansone*," since the acquittal of that vessel was decreed by the Admiralty Court at Genoa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 271.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Wodehouse.

My Lord,

Admiralty, April 17, 1855.

IN reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, requesting information as to whether the citation of the master and owners of the "*Sansone*," the Sardinian barque, detained off Quitta on the 14th April, 1845, by Commander Layton and Lieutenant Glynn, of Her Majesty's ship "*Cygnat*," was ever served upon either of those officers as a preliminary step in the action for damages now

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 375.

pending in the Court of Admiralty at Genoa against these captors, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you the inclosed papers for the perusal of the Earl of Clarendon, from which it is to be gathered that neither officer has received any citation from the master or owners after her release from capture as a slaver, and her restoration to her owners under certain circumstances.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 271.

Captain Layton to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, 86, Castle Hill, Reading, April 13, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant (received on the 10th), relative to the detention of the Sardinian barque "*Sansone*," and to acquaint you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I never received any citation from the master or owners of that vessel after her release, and it does not appear, by a letter I have just received from Lieutenant, now Commander, E. A. Glynn (the prize officer) that he received any.

As far as I can remember at this distant period of ten years, the sentence of the Court was, that this vessel was convicted as a slaver, but under certain circumstances restored to the owners, as well as the cargo, that they were to stand all losses, or rather that no remuneration should be granted to them, and that the owners were cast in all expenses. I beg to inclose Commander Glynn's letter to me, as well as a copy of one he wrote to the Honourable Ralph Abercromby, the then British Minister at Genoa, after the "*Sansone*" was released, showing how unjustly that officer (as the prize master) was treated by the Court during its proceedings.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY LAYTON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 271.

Lieutenant Glynn to the Hon. R. Abercromby.

Sir, Genoa, December 9, 1845.

I BEG to acquaint you, on sending the proceedings of the "*Sansone*," I find many questions placed by me for the information of the Court have not been entered; also, in another part, questions put to me have been so expressed as to give an entirely different meaning to that intended.

The questions I placed are as follows:—

Was it necessary for the "*Sansone*" to have five bulk-heads; if so, why was the after one, down to the keel, cut through to allow the cargo to be stowed the whole way aft, the pieces of plank remaining loose in the hold?

The possibility of laying a deck between the second and third after bulk-heads for women?

Is it likely or customary to boil pitch in copper vessels?

Two small boilers being amply sufficient for forty-two people during the voyage from the Island of Ascension to this port, what might be sufficient for their own crew of sixteen?

Do you not think the coppers and large boilers being besmeared with pitch was to blind any visit?

Is it probable for a vessel to have four pitch boilers?

The Court having come to the decision to liberate the "*Sansone*," I must beg to remark, I have never once been in the presence of the members of the Court, though I frequently expressed my desire to be present on different occasions.

The Captain of the "*Sansone*," in his evidence on oath, asserts that there was not one sack of farinha on board altogether, and in that of the mate's there

were ten or eleven, which is in direct opposition to the statement of the master.

The Advocate Fiscal says, pleading as an excuse for the boilers, that so many were for the use of ship, and the seventh (or sixth, leaving out the pitch-pot) was actually indispensable for the use of the kitchen, thereby allowing them for that purpose, when never more than two had been used. I must also remark that he states other vessels were visited, and no difference was observed. I happened to be present at the visit, and I positively assert not one vessel was fitted in any way like the "*Sansone*," which I pointed out at the time in the presence of the interpreter.

The letters I have never seen, and the only information I can give is, in the examination of the master he is questioned as to the sale of a brig he commanded on the coast of Africa on a former occasion, which he acknowledged to have sold; also about a letter in which his name is mentioned to receive some money, a debt to the writer, from a slave merchant at Lagos, and if not able to get the money to take two slaves in lieu.

Two other letters are spoken of; but not being able to get any person who can translate them, the contents are unknown.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMD. A. GLYNN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 271.

Commander Glynn to Captain Layton.

Sir,

11, *Victoria Place, Stoke, April 11, 1855.*

IN reply to your letter of yesterday's date, wherein you mention that my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have directed you to state whether the citation of the master and owners of the "*Sansone*," Sardinian barque, detained off Quitta on the 14th of April, 1845, by Her Majesty's ship "*Cygnat*" whilst under your command, was ever served upon either of us, I beg to say, to the best of my recollection, that I never received any such document. I remember, a few days after our arrival at Genoa, receiving some paper (in Italian), wherein both your and my name were mentioned, citing us to be prepared to answer for the detention of the above-named vessel, or something to that effect. My impression is, it related to the trial then pending, as, till that was over, no claim for damages could be made. On the result of the trial being communicated to Sir Ralph Abercromby (our then Minister at the Court of Turin), he gave me my permission to depart; since which I have never received any correspondence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMD A. GLYNN.

No. 272.

Mr. Erskine to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 5.)

(Extract.)

Turin, June 30, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 15th of March last,* and to Sir James Hudson's of the 24th of the same month,† relative to the case of the "*Sansone*," I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a translation of the judgment delivered by the Admiralty Court at Genoa on the 31st of July, 1850, referred to in M. d'Azeglio's note to your Lordship of the 14th of February last.

In the opinion of the legal adviser of this Legation, the claim for damages brought forward by the master and owners of the "*Sansone*" against Captain Layton is not admissible.

By Article VII of the Supplementary Convention of the 22nd of March, 1823, quoted in your Lordship's despatch of the 15th March last, it is stipulated that no compensation shall be granted in any case in which certain prohibited articles enumerated in Article VI of that Convention are found on board a detained vessel.

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 375.

† No. 270.

But it has been judicially proved before the Admiralty Court at Genoa that some of those prohibited Articles were found on board the "*Sansone*," viz., seven boilers (three of which were of copper and four of iron), a pair of handcuffs, and an iron for branding slaves.

These three coppers, therefore (or even two of them), and the handcuffs, would, under Article VII of the Convention, justify the detention of the "*Sansone*," and preclude the award of damages against Captain Layton.

In the judgment of the 31st of July, 1850, it is assumed that the mere presence of the handcuffs on board would not be sufficient, unless the captor was aware of that fact. But this assertion would appear to be contrary to the letter and to the spirit of the Convention.

Article VII does not contemplate the knowledge on the part of the captain that such articles are in existence, but simply the fact of their material presence on board. If the captor, on visiting a suspected vessel, were to discover any of the particulars specified in Article VI, he might, without risk of an action for damages, detain that vessel and send her for adjudication to the country to which she belonged. On her arrival in port, papers might be found containing legal proof that she was really on a slaving voyage when captured. Surely those papers ought to ensure her condemnation, even if their existence were unknown to the captor.

But what was the real character of the "*Sansone*?" From the examination of the master, Aquarone, it appears that she sailed from Genoa with orders to touch at Bahia, and place herself at the disposal of one Joseph Carena. By this Carena, Aquarone was directed to proceed to Onim, on the coast of Africa, and obey the orders of Joseph Salà, the correspondent of Carena.

Carena's letter to Salà in reference to the subsequent employment of the "*Sansone*," is so conclusive as to her real character, that I beg to call your Lordship's particular attention to the subjoined translation of that letter; and I may add that this is only one of a series of letters of the same purport which were found on board the "*Sansone*" at Genoa, and which form part of the evidence in this case.

In spite of that evidence, Captain Layton has been condemned to indemnify the master and owners of the "*Sansone*" for all damages sustained by them in consequence of the detention of that vessel.

The total amount of those damages has not yet been assessed, but the sum claimed is about 600,000 francs (24,000*l.*), in addition to the heavy legal costs incurred by both sides in a series of actions extending over nine or ten years.

Inclosure I in No. 272.

Judgment in Action for Damages against the Captors of the "Sansone."

(Translation.)

IN the case of the merchant Settimio Noli, and Captain John Baptist Aquarone, the former, shipowner and part proprietor of the cargo, the latter, Commander of the Sardinian barque "*Sansone*," represented by the Advocate Genecco; against Henry Layton, Commander of the English war-sloop "*Cygnet*," cruising on the coast of Africa (absent from the kingdom), represented by his advocate Signor Rupallo; and Lieutenant Glynn of the British navy, residing at Genoa, contumacious; and Mr. Joseph M. Nicolay, Brazilian Consul, solicitor for the Brazilian passengers on board the brig "*Sansone*," represented by the Advocate Fontana.

Seeing that, by a decree of November 12, 1845, pronounced by that magistrate, the capture of the "*Sansone*" by Commander Layton, of the "*Cygnet*," on April 14, 1845, was declared illegal, and that there were no grounds for further criminal proceedings against Captain Baptist Aquarone, and against E. C. Ferreira, reserving to them, however, and to any one else interested in it, the right to take advantage of any claims they may have in pursuance with existing public Treaties.

Seeing that, in accordance with this decree and with the judgment pronounced, the shipowner, S. Noli, Captain J. B. Aquarone, and others, brought a counter-action against Lieutenant Layton and Lieutenant Edmund Glynn, the

first as having seized the ship, the second as having been charged by Layton to conduct her to this port, in that their right to an indemnity for the unjustifiable capture of the ship may be declared, and for the abuses and vexations inflicted on them by the English who effected the capture, the only question which would be submitted to the magistrate would be, whether, taking into consideration all the circumstances which had come to light in the criminal process, or might do so afterwards in the civil process, the captors had justifiable cause for effecting the seizure, for, if such were the case, the captured would not have any right to claim indemnity, according to Articles VI, VII, and VIII of the Supplementary Convention of March 22, 1833, or that of November 30, 1831.

Seeing that, since the above-mentioned decree of acquittal, nothing new in support of the capture has come to light, it necessarily follows that the affair must be settled by reference to the criminal process.

Seeing that, by an impartial examination of the results of that process, any one may easily convince himself that, at the time of the capture, there was not on board any one of those articles which, according to Article VI above mentioned, justify the supposition that a ship is destined for Slave Traffic; that, in fact, it was officially acknowledged, and certified in the reports of visiting the ship in presence of said Glynn, that the "*Sansone*" had its hatches fashioned like those of all other ships, *i. e.*, closed, and not with gratings in wood or in iron; that her compartments, both above and below deck, were fitted after the manner of our merchant-vessels; that it had a bulk-head forward, divided in two parts, one for the cordage and sails, &c., the other for seamen's berths; another bulk-head in the stern, near the Captain's cabin, used as a dispensary; that no planks in reserve, sufficient or applicable for forming compartments, were found, or for making a double-deck, or a moveable one, or one for slaves; only sufficient water for the crew during the voyage, no more ample receptacles for it than the wants of the crew and passengers required, nor rice, flour, or manioca other than necessary for the same purpose.

Seeing that, if, in the examination made of the "*Sansone*" made in this port was found a rusty pair of handcuffs ("pollice") in a closed box marked with the letter "Z," directed by one Hyacinth de Souza to one Joseph Maltese, and in another closed box, marked with the letters "IG," directed by one Velazo di Bahia to one G. G. Gomez, was found an iron brand for slaves, it is yet evident that these things cannot be considered as the chains, collars, &c., mentioned in Article VI, which, if found on board a merchant-ship, entail the supposition of Slave Traffic; and this Article, combined with the succeeding one (Article VII), requires that, in order to cause that supposition, such objects must belong to the captain, or be in his possession, or he must, at least, know of their being there.

Now it is certain that none of the above-mentioned conditions were fulfilled; hence the magistrate did not take them into consideration, or consider the articles above mentioned as proofs against the captain of the "*Sansone*." Since no condemnation could be founded upon them, still less could they be considered to justify the capture, as one must bear in mind that they could not, and did not, influence the capture, as the captors were unaware of their existence until the examination of the vessel in this port.

Seeing that if, at the time of the capture of the "*Sansone*," as indicated by Commander Layton in his letter of April 14, 1845, to the Governor of Genoa, three boilers were found on board; and afterwards, at the time of the examination at this port, four other vessels were discovered; two were called boilers, and the other two, of metal, were full of pitch; yet these vessels cannot be taken into consideration in deciding the question, for, in truth, if Article VI of the above-mentioned Treaty mentions two or three boilers on board a merchant-vessel as indicating Slave Traffic, it refers obviously, both literally and in spirit, to such as are used for cooking; those that are not used for that purpose, having no reference to the object of the Treaty, could not be referred to (as they were not) by the Contracting Parties.

Now if it be true that there were seven boilers on board, it is likewise true that only two, of the measure of only twenty-seven "amole"* between them, were adapted to culinary purposes, and thus hardly sufficient, as was judged by all experienced people, and as evidently appears, to the wants of the crew; and

* "Amola," a Genoese measure, equal to about eight-ninths of a quart.

that only two were destined for cooking, the judicial deposition of Lieutenant Glynn proves, which admits that two of the boilers found were used on board, and one was covered and partly filled with pitch, on which account the two boilers cannot be considered as illegal according to Article VI, and if, according to it, not even one boiler may be considered as evidence of the Traffic, it adds, "if they be obviously larger than the number of persons on board requires."

Seeing that the remaining five boilers or vessels cannot be considered as evidence, one being quite useless, as was shown by qualified examiners, and the remaining four destined to boil resin, pitch, tar, and to contain tallow, as appeared at first sight; which four boilers, as results from the depositions of the examiners, are necessary, and are usually kept on board every merchant-ship.

That Captain R. Lagoraro, and Captain B. Mazzino, who succeeded him, declared that in their time the "*Sansone*" had these seven vessels of metal; that then, also, four of them were destined to various services on board the vessel, and only two for cooking, the third being useless from age.

Seeing that there could be no doubt as to the identity of the said vessels, after the official recognition made of them by Captains Lagoraro and Mazzino, therefore no one could doubt the truth of the assertions of Captain Aquarone, of the second Olsini, and others of the crew, that the ship had only two boilers, and that they were only adapted to the wants of the ship.

Seeing that it could not with reason be said that the other boilers could, if necessary, be used for cooking, it being proved by experience that it would be impossible, because, to do so, it would be necessary to increase the fire, which would crack the vessels. That, in fact, one of these same boilers, precisely that with tar, the biggest of all, was, after the capture of the vessel, cleaned with iron and fire by Lieutenant Glynn, as he had to state himself before the Tribunal; and notwithstanding this cleaning, they could not succeed in making any other use of it; and when the criminal process came on, it was recognised by the experienced Captains Buzzolini and Bollo that it was evidently intended for pitch.

Seeing, also, that to all this another circumstance must be added, that the Treaty provides for the finding "of two or more boilers in copper" (probably more, in use for the food of slaves), while the boilers found on board the "*Sansone*," as shown by the judicial investigation, were all of iron except one, that one the damaged one, and quite covered with rust, having the colour of verdigris; which shows that the captain of the cruiser did not speak the truth when, in the page mentioned above, he states that, on visiting the ship, he found three coppers on board, by which he certainly meant to say boilers in copper.

If these boilers were insufficient as a proof of guilt before the Tribunals, they ought also to be insufficient to excuse the arrest of the "*Sansone*;" in the first place, because the captors, experienced in all sea matters, knew that every mercantile vessel, as shown in the trial, has a number of boilers for heating pitch, resin, &c.; secondly, because the boilers in question were evidently intended for that purpose, since the inside was all covered with that material.

Seeing that, considering the state of the things, one can safely affirm that the three boilers found on board by Layton did not come under the terms of Article VI, and could not reasonably excite Layton's suspicions; that, on that account, he was not placed within those limits which, according to the Treaty, would justify the supposition that he acted in good faith in effecting the capture of the "*Sansone*."

Seeing that, from all this, it appears that nothing was found on board the "*Sansone*" of the articles mentioned in Article VI: had any such been found, that fact alone, according to the terms of Article VII, would at once have excluded any action for indemnity, even supposing the "*Sansone*" acquitted. Under these circumstances, it remains to examine if, independently of these articles, any other proof was found which might excuse the capture.

Seeing that one cannot consider a sufficient excuse for the arrest, the certificate inserted in the documents, and countersigned by the so-called merchants Thompson and Ize, who declared that a canoe having come near the "*Sansone*" in the waters of Quitta, two boxes of slave-irons were disembarked into her; since these declarations, insufficient in themselves, and refuted by the documents, could not be considered as affording sufficient grounds of suspicion, when one reflects that they were made two days after the capture of the "*Sansone*," on which

account it would be ridiculous to ascribe the arrest to them, they having been made after the capture, and not before it. Neither could the lanterns found on board, or the arms, be considered suspicious; the lamps, as was proved, being useless, and even dangerous; the arms only the usual quantity on board vessels going long voyages—only two cannon and ten muskets, besides the armament made at Genoa.

Seeing that the letters found on board were of such a sort that they could not condemn the captain, they could not either give any cause for suspicion. In some of these letters received by the captain, and sealed with permission of the post of Bahia, although they speak of Slave Traffic, and even give a commission of that nature, still the magistrate did not take them into account, on the ground that the captain and shipowner had nothing to do with them, and that they could no more be responsible for them than a courier for the documents he carries. In the whole course of the proceedings, it was never shown that the captain had, or could have had, any knowledge of their contents; neither could they have excited the suspicions of the captors, who were quite ignorant of their contents.

Seeing that if from this analysis it appears that the captors had no just grounds for the capture, the trial, on the other hand, brings to light facts which ought to have persuaded the captors that the "*Sansone*" really was not fitted out for Slave Traffic.

In truth, it appears from the trial, that at the first signal of the "*Cygnets*," she hove-to, to be visited; that neither the captain nor crew made any resistance to prevent the visit, nor any disturbance, or refusal to leave their vessel. All this ought to have convinced the captors that the "*Sansone*" was not intended for Slave Trade, nor could she be meant for that, having none of the appliances on board necessary for that calling.

Seeing also that reasonable grounds for suspicion on the part of the captor are excluded, from his not having immediately, at the time of the arrest, drawn up either an inventory, in duplicate, of all the papers found on board, or a *procès-verbal*, likewise in duplicate, containing a description of all the circumstances which led to the capture of the ship, as explicitly directed by Article II of the Instructions annexed to the Treaty of 22nd March, 1833: as the two documents presented to Lieutenant Glynn (when the ship was handed over to his charge), and signed only by Commander Layton, cannot be considered as such; both because they are informal, and called by Commander Layton himself simple declarations, and because they were not made at the time of the visit, and at once, as the Instructions require, and which was the more necessary as said ship was not taken direct to Genoa, as required by the Treaty, but to the Island of Ascension, where the captors took on board divers articles and provisions.

Seeing that not only was the visit not made in the manner prescribed by Treaty, but it is also certain that the captors rendered themselves liable to the charge of robbing the crew, passengers, and cargo.

Seeing that such robbery appeared from the unanimous depositions of the crew and passengers, which might be suspicious, they would be proved by two incontestable circumstances; the first, that in the examination made on board at Genoa, divers boxes, broken and half-broken, were found; the second, that Layton, in consequence of the complaint of the crew and passengers, and admitting the injury inflicted on them, gave them a letter of change of 27l. sterling, with directions to hand it over to Captain Aquarone, on his arrival at Genoa, in order that it might be distributed among the sufferers. This, however, was never done.

Seeing that, taking into consideration all this, the plea that in the reasoning of the decree of the magistrate, November 12, 1845, the captain and others are excluded from bringing an action for damages, for illegal capture. And indeed, although one reads there that the number of the boilers might at first have given reasonable grounds for suspicion, that still it is clear that, if these expressions be taken in connection with those that follow, it will appear that the magistrate's reason for not admitting the claim for indemnity, up to that time, was, that by the process the captors were not prevented from bringing forward, in prosecution of judgment, the proof of the facts which might have excused their having made the illegal capture. Besides, it would be a contradiction that a decree should, in its disposition, have reserved the exercise of a right whose existence was recognised as excluded in the reasoning. At all events, it is a

canon of jurisprudence that a sentence shall be interpreted on the strength of its disposing clauses, and not on that of the declaratory clauses by which those disposing clauses are preceded.

Seeing that Article VIII of the above-mentioned Convention of March 23, 1833, clearly shows that the Contracting Parties did not intend to make the captain of the cruiser and the officers who captured the vessel, or were put on board her, responsible for damages done. The above principle being admitted, it remains to inquire whether, retaining the words “*sera suivant les circonstances possible*” in said Article, the whole expenses for indemnity ought to fall on Commander Layton, or in part on Lieutenant Glynn also.

Seeing that the damages complained of by Captain Aquarone and his partners in the suit took place, as proved in the documents, before the “*Sansone*” left the Island of Ascension, and all of which might have been prevented by Layton, who gave all the orders, and under whose direction they were carried out—the legal consequence is that he alone, and not Lieutenant Glynn, is responsible for the damages.

Seeing that said Edmund Glynn, although cited personally, according to law, rendered himself guilty of contumacy, by appointing a new solicitor, instead of the Advocate Ponte, his solicitor, deceased during the trial, and who had in his name legalised the judgment.

On these grounds, the Council of Mercantile Marine sitting at Genoa, having heard the documents read, and the conclusions drawn from them of the Advocate-General and the parties in public audience by their solicitors, has decided that Lieutenant Glynn ought to be absolved, as it does absolve him, from the demands of the prosecutors, condemning him to the penalty entailed by his contumacy; and has declared, as it does declare, that Commander Layton is condemned to indemnify the prosecutors and their partners in the action for the damages entailed by the illegal capture of the “*Sansone*,” in that sum which shall be liquidated in prosecution of the judgment. Expenses to be paid by Henry Layton.

Genoa, July 31, 1850.

(Signed)

D'ARCOLIERES, *President, Rear-Admiral.*

SOLDATI, *Reporter, Auditor of War and Marine.*

BREA, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 272.

Abstract of a Letter from Joseph Carena to Joseph Salà, of Onim, on the Coast of Africa, dated March 3, 1845.

HE begins by acknowledging the receipt of 35 slaves instead of 45, which Salà had shipped by the “*Maria*,” owing to damage she had sustained from foul weather. Has given the necessary orders to prevent the cruizers from capturing the polacca, but that he fears she will return empty.

He then goes on as follows:—

“I have already informed you that I am about to load the Sardinian barque ‘*Sansone*,’ Captain John Aquarone, but before doing so I applied to our common friends, Messrs. Gantois and Palhet, to have the goodness to induce you to take charge of the unloading of that vessel. Those friends having consented to this, I take the liberty of recommending the vessel to your protection, both in regard to its unloading, ballast, and everything else it may require. . . . I had determined to direct the ‘*Sansone*’ to touch at Minas, for three canoes and one gang (‘*per fare tre canoe e una compagnia*’). Messrs. Gantois and Palhet inform me that they have already sent to ship some for two vessels, and that on the arrival of the ‘*Sansone*,’ as you will not have many vessels to unload, you will have canoes enough. Your activity makes it unnecessary that I should add any further recommendation as to unloading the vessel with all possible celerity; and although it is sheathed with copper it is not sufficiently deep (‘*alto*’), and were it to remain a long time laden it could not fail to suffer, on account of the ‘*bajanos*,’ [*sic*] of which there are many on the whole coast, and especially at Onim. . . . I do not know how (‘*in che modo*’) [*qy.* how long] the cruizer will remain in your port, but at all events nothing will be lost,

and as I have hitherto observed that the vessels which were deemed least adapted to certain trades were most fortunate, I do not hesitate to place the vessel at your disposal, in case a favourable opportunity should offer. I propose to you the same for the sum of 8,000 pieces, in which I am interested for one-fourth part. Captain Aquarone has the necessary instructions. He is the same who sold the polacca '*Rustico*' to Mr. Martins; and who being deeply interested in not compromising his flag, did his best to give effect to the operation, and in this case I am satisfied that he will do the same."

No. 273.

Sir J. Hudson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

(Extract.)

Turin, September 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that the evidence in the case of the slaver "*Sansone*," as given before the Admiralty Court of Genoa, has been submitted to two advocates in this city, who have drawn up an opinion upon it, from which it appears that the sentence of that Court must be considered as null and of no effect, because it is in such direct opposition to the facts adduced of the slave-trading character of the "*Sansone*," as to warrant its being considered in bar of justice and equity, and as a violation not only of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1833, for the suppression of Slave Trade between Great Britain and Sardinia, but also of the law of this country, as far as that law is sought to be enforced in the case of the action for damages which sprung out of the acquittal of the "*Sansone*."

In order to comprehend the full scope of this judgment of the Admiralty Court of Genoa, this sentence need only be divided under three distinct and separate heads, which show—

First. Its violation of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1833, as being in opposition to the facts adduced on the trial.

Secondly. Its nullity, as a matter of civil procedure, because the Council or tribunal of the Admiralty Court of Genoa had no jurisdiction to award damages, after its first judgment, by which it acquitted Aquarone, the master of the "*Sansone*," of the charge of slave-trading.

Thirdly. Its nullity, on the ground of the absence of the prescribed and usual process of citation, as applied to Captain Layton as defendant in the action for damages brought against him by the master and owner of the "*Sansone*."

The grounds for this conclusion, together with the necessary extracts from the evidence taken on the trial before the Admiralty Court of Genoa, will be found in the opinion of the advocates in question, a translation of which opinion I have the honour to annex to this despatch.

Inclosure in No. 273.

Opinion in the case of the "Sansone."

(Translation.)

OPINION on the substance and form of the sentence of the Genoese Admiralty Court, of July 31, 1850, which condemned Commander Henry Layton, (commanding a cruiser), in damages and costs to Captain G. B. Aquarone, and the owner Settimio Noli.

1. In substance this sentence is opposed both to law and Treaty, whether viewed by the arguments and facts it contains, or from an examination of the documents in the process.

2. Firstly, it must be noted that the arguments of the Admiralty Court

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start from this implied assumption, namely, the invalidity of the captures, and the liability of the captor to costs and damages in cases where the judge is of opinion that the appearances which caused the capture are shown, by contrary evidence, to have been insufficient motives for the vessel's condemnation; and this because such appearances ought, in that case, to be ignored.

3. Such an assumption is erroneous. The Convention of March 22, 1833, between England and France, supplementary to the Treaty of November 1831, distinguishes between the appearances from which, as of right, a vessel may be inferred to be a slaver, and the motives which form reasonable ground of suspicion and detention.

4. Between them the difference is very great. Suspicion, to bring home the crime to the accused, must be supported by very conclusive evidence; but the appearances which the law has fixed as presumptive evidence, are themselves sufficient and indisputable proofs where the accused cannot show, by other means, that such legal presumption does not hold good in his case.

5. The existence of each kind of appearance depends on a material issue, namely, that of the fact asserted by the cruiser; and on a moral issue, namely, that of the probative value of the facts thus judicially discussed. The magistrate can estimate this value, arguing from the results of the trial generally, and applying to each fact the criticism allowed by law. But this estimate, even if it totally repudiates the validity of the fact, recognizes the material issue and cannot affect its existence. Now the existence of the fact alone legalizes the capture.

6. Article VII of the Convention of 1833 declares clearly that no indemnity of any sort whatever can be ever awarded to a ship provided with any one of the objects specified in Article VI, not even when the ship has been released by the magistrate. In this Article there is an obvious distinction between the justification of the capture, and the adequacy of the proof to condemn the vessel—between the material fact and its value in law.

7. But the sentence under notice begins by asserting that there did not exist on the "*Sansone*" "at the time of her capture any one of those objects which, by the terms of the quoted Article VI, create, as of right, the presumption that a vessel is a slaver."

But how is this proved?

8. The sentence states, *e.g.*, that the cruiser found on board the "*Sansone*" seven boilers, but at the same time says their existence must be ignored, because experience and evidence prove that of these only two were for cooking, and the rest for miscellaneous purposes. This means that there were actually on board five superfluous boilers—three of copper and two of another metal: but that the legal presumption of guilt which they afford is nullified by the proof of their exceptional object. But even were this the case, as regards the judicial and penal results of the proof against the "*Sansone*," still nothing can be plainer than the transparency of the logic of the Court, when, from this disculpatory proof, it argues the non-existence of the fact.

9. The Court's argument may be summed up in these positions:—

"It is true that seven boilers, of which five of copper, were found on board. It is true that two would have sufficed for the crew. It is true that these seven boilers afford legal presumption in favour of detention. But as I, the Court, am convinced that of the seven boilers five were for the miscellaneous service of the vessel, and that the captors ought to have seen the matter in my light, it follows that hence the existence of the seven boilers is to be ignored."

10. If it be said that the Court does not deny the fact, but only limits its value in proof, and denies not its absolute existence, but its force as evidence, we reply that the error of the Court consists practically in the confounding and mixing up together two things; for the Judge, in declaring his conviction of the insufficiency of one of the appearances specified in Article VI, argues, as a consequence, the obligation of the cruiser to form a similar opinion, and ignore the very fact which constitutes the legal presumption. We cannot understand how it is possible for any case whatever to meet the hypothesis of Article VII, that is to say, that the Judge may, under certain circumstances, acquit the captured vessel, but never condemn the captor in damages.

11. Article VIII of the Convention of 1833 provides for another case, that

in which the captor of a vessel detained without adequate grounds of suspicion may be condemned in damages. The same Article clearly shows how the grounds of suspicion differ from the facts which by Article VI constitute legal presumption. But the Judge is bound to declare the existence of such grounds at the moment of capture, independently of their value at the time of trial: he may not inquire if, from the facts developed by the trial, adequate suspicion of guilt attaches to the accused, but whether at the date of visit the captor found appearances calculated to excite in his mind the suspicion that the vessel was engaged in the prohibited Traffic.

12. The sentence goes on to admit that in case of absolute absence of the appearances specified in Article VI of the International Convention of 1833, there remains to inquire "if the trial has furnished any other evidence that might have justified the captors." Here is a fresh confusion between the Court's opinion and the existence of the motives of suspicion on the part of the cruiser.

13. In these last would naturally be included the discovery on board, in two boxes, of a pair of iron handcuffs, and a slave branding-iron. Not so the sentence, which, passing in review the particulars contemplated by Article VI of the Convention, notes that in reality these objects are neither the bolts nor handcuffs named in the Article. We ask, however, if their existence did not warrant the suspicion of the vessel's employment in the Slave Trade. The Judges, however, do not omit to assert that Captain Aquarone has been proved to have been not cognizant of the existence of those objects. But if the captain be thus absolved of the fact, that does not remove the grounds which caused reasonable suspicion to the captor, who neither ought nor could examine into Aquarone's cognizance of the fact.

We shall revert presently to this important particular, which the Admiralty Court touches on so lightly.

14. To proceed, meanwhile, with our investigation. Captain Layton, to prove the reasonableness of his suspicions, produced the declaration of two merchants, who said they had seen shipped into a canoe from the "*Sansone*" two casks of slave-irons, near Quitta, in agreement with which the crew and so-called passengers attest the approach of a canoe to the vessel, explanations obviously self-contradictory being offered by different individuals. But the Admiralty Court thinking to destroy, root and branch, the suspicion arising from this fact, impugns the legality of the act of attestation, as if forsooth it were possible for judicial acts drawn up at different points on the coast of Africa to meet the stipulations of the forms required by the Sardinian law; and the Court further rebuts such declaration as insufficient to justify the cruiser's suspicion on the ground that it was made two days after the capture, thus confounding the date of the fact's occurrence, and Captain Layton's knowledge thereof, with the date of the attestation of the two eye-witnesses.

15. The sentence proceeds to discuss the long correspondence seized on board of the "*Sansone*," and observes, "that although mention was made of the Slave Trade, and commissions of that description given, yet the magistrate had to take no account of this in his judgment (given penally), because the matter was foreign to the captain and owner." We shall presently see how far this last assertion is correct, but any how we cannot understand how a great number of letters about slaves entrusted to a captain for remittance, could fail to cause suspicion, and especially when the case includes all those other grounds of suspicion described by the sentence itself.

16. Moreover, by placing parallel to the results of the trial the facts kept out of sight by the Court, it is easy to argue thence how widely the judgment given leans from the truth, and from the collected proofs.

17. The sentence, in fact, assumes the non-existence on board the "*Sansone*" of any one of the appearances contemplated by Article VI.

18. But the cruiser, on the other hand, proved three—that of the boilers above-mentioned, which the Court at one time restricts and denies; also two others—viz., a superfluous provision of water-casks, and the existence of a number of planks suitable for the construction of bulkheads, or of a flying bridge (*i. e.*, a slave deck).

19. The Court decides that the supply of water did not exceed the quantity requisite, reference being made to certain special considerations, on which, however, the same value had not been set by the cruiser; and as to the slave deck (*vide*:

page 356 of the trial, copied on unstamped paper), the competent authority called to give his opinion admits that it could have been well made upon the "*Sansone*," but comments, after his fashion, on the use of this deck and that of certain (rhomboid) holes plugged with pieces of planks, destined, according to Lieutenant Glynn, for air-holes for slaves placed in the deck partition, but, according to the authority, intended for loading grain. This comment, though a benevolent explanation of the facts mentioned, does not suffice to destroy them, and thus the Court could not deny their existence.

20. Speaking of the handcuffs and "marker,"* as also of the contents of the letters, the Court considered that their existence was not only unknown to Aquarone, but was not even suspected by Commander Layton. So that neither could the former be accused on the ground of these appearances, nor could the latter build on them a justification of his suspicion and capture.

21. This twofold assertion is contradicted by the trial. As to the letters, it must be noted that there is a paragraph in the address of Captain Aquarone, and the owner Noli, to the Court, September 4, 1845 (of which we shall speak presently), wherein they complain of Layton's violation of the secrecy of the letters, by breaking the seals, and invoke the sanction of the civil power—as if the civil power had agreed to respect the secret of a most atrocious and long correspondence respecting the most infamous of cruelties.

22. Anyhow, this Captain Aquarone asserts Layton to have had cognizance of the letters. Now in the number were two which spoke of the handcuffs and slave-marker sent out by the "*Sansone*," so that their material discovery was not wanted in order to build on them the suspicion of the "*Sansone's*" employment in those abominable proceedings. There are, further, hundreds of other letters, commissioning the purchase of slaves of both sexes, which speak of sales of this human ware, some which allude clearly enough to the dispatch of slaves by the vessel that carries the letter, and many others which talk with revolting indifference of the death of shoals of these miserable creatures, and speak of them as having been maltreated,† and even thrown into the sea, from fear of search or capture, thus treating them with much less consideration than would be given to cotton or hay.

23. Then as to Captain Aquarone's cognizance of the ultimate destination of his ship, which was sent to Onim by a certain Carena, and as to the knowledge of this which Captain Layton may have obtained, there is a proof of irrefragable value which the Court has entirely omitted to remember.

24. Aquarone, in one of his examinations, declares that Noli sent him to Bahia, with orders to present himself to Signor Joseph Carena, by whom his ultimate instructions would be given. He adds that Carena sent the vessel thence to Onim, and entrusted to him, the captain, letters for a certain Salà, and a certain Gil, both of Onim, who were to assist him with their labour, and furnish him with money for the landing of his cargo. (Trial, p. 277, and sec. 9.)

25. Now this Salà is one of the most active and influential slave-agents, and a large portion of the letters produced on the trial are either directed to him or speak of him: Gil, too, as results from the correspondence itself, is connected with the same Traffic.

26. For these good people Captain Aquarone had three letters from Carena, who was to settle the destination of the "*Sansone*." The most important of these letters of his freighter is amongst those set apart under No. 158. We read in it that Carena is greatly afraid of cruisers, and fears that a polacca, on which Salà was to send him I know not how many blacks, called by him "fardi," would come empty. It further contains the receipt of 35 "fardi," i.e., blacks, arrived by the "*Maria*," a ship which, from several dozens of other letters, is known to be slaver. He goes on to speak of the "*Sansone's*" dispatch to Salà, expressing himself thus: "I do not know how the cruiser will continue in your port; but as in our case nothing is lost (perhaps, slaves cannot be embarked when the cruiser is in port), and as I have remarked hitherto that vessels though ill-adapted for a certain business (as was the "*Sansone*") are the most fortunate, I do not hesitate to place the vessel at your disposition. *

* * Captain Aquarone has the requisite instructions. It was he who sold the polacca '*Rustica*' to Signor Martini, and who, always keeping

* Branding-iron for slaves.

† In the original the word is "avariati," which is a commercial term as applied to goods which are damaged on a voyage.—J. H.

clearly in view the necessity of not compromising the flag, did not fail to contribute to the success of the operation, and I am sure he will act thus on the present occasion." After such a damning document the Court can, if it please, declare Aquarone innocent; but not affirm that so important a letter was insufficient to excite the suspicion of the cruiser Layton, and that the latter violated the Treaties by the capture of a vessel put at the disposition of a slave-dealer by another slave-dealer, and commanded by a man said to be clever at this infamous Traffic, and furnished with instructions given verbally by the freighter, furnished too with a vessel likely to elude the vigilance of the cruiser on account of being peculiarly adapted, from its build, for Slave Traffic. Carena feared the cruiser, and the Council judges that the cruiser had no grounds for suspecting the cause of his fear, namely, that the ship sent by him to Onim was employed in Slave Traffic.

II.

27. The sentence of the Admiralty is wrong, not only as regards its merits, but also in its form, and we are certain that the Sardinian tribunals themselves can support justice, and render it null and void. As regards the Treaty, the sentence is null and void, because pronounced by the Admiralty when it was no longer competent to decide and settle damages and interest, using a jurisdiction which did not belong to it, and a mode of proceeding which belonged to other tribunals. To show this, it is necessary to define in what capacity the Admiralty acts in cases concerning Slave Trade, and what part the cruiser plays in a judgment such as the one before us. The Patents of 13th January, 1827, bear in front words which indicate their destination, saying, "His Majesty commands to observe the Penal Law for the Mercantile Marine." In this Penal Law under the chapter of Navigation Police, Article 104, "Captains and masters of vessels under our flag are forbidden to let themselves for the transport of slaves of any sort; the infraction of said Decree to be punished from five to fifteen years of galleys, and by a fine not greater than 24,000 francs." So when the Court of Admiralty judged of the fact of which Aquarone was accused, it erected itself into a judge of a crime, and so exercised a jurisdiction entirely criminal.

28. In fact the Patents of 27th May, 1847, which constitute the Council of the Admiralty, in the 7th Article, declares it competent to decide, among other things, about piracy, desertion, insubordination at sea, and infractions towards the marine police, under which category comes Slave Trade. The Council, therefore, acted as a criminal tribunal, and as it administered penal laws, so ought it to have followed the criminal mode of proceedings.

29. Now let us see what office summoned the cruiser before such a tribunal. Slave Traffic, declared forty years since to merit reprobation, in the name of the principles of humanity and universal morality, was declared a punishable crime by almost all civilized nations. On that account several of them, adhering to the Treaty of 1831 between France and England, and to the subsequent Convention of 22nd March, 1833, resolved to send men of war into the suspected waters to visit and capture vessels suspected of carrying on that immoral and reprobated Traffic.

30. In order, however, to respect as much as possible the territorial independence of each State, and make in harmony with this new sort of jurisdiction, a penal proceeding common to many States, and so to speak humane, it was decreed:

(1.) That the cruisers of each nation should be furnished with diplomas from each of the Contracting Governments.

(2.) That each captured ship should be judged by the tribunals of the country it belongs to, and according to the laws enforced in that country; which is as much as to say that the cruiser captures a suspected vessel in the name of the Governments to which both capturer and captured belong. But as officer of one of these Governments, by his own act, he binds himself to be answerable for damages done by the capture, in cases provided for by Treaty.

(Lastly.) Any agent furnished with diplomas from all the allied Governments, by whom the Slave Trade is attacked as a public crime, has a right to assist in person, and to be represented in the penal proceedings (Article IV, Convention, 22nd March, 1833), it being the public interest, and the law of nations, that such a crime be punished.

31. So, when the cruizer, or his representative, is a party in the cause, affords explanations, furnishes proofs, prosecutes the accused, and, in the case of acquittal, either from want of evidence or motives of suspicion, he is held responsible for damages, different qualities are embodied in him; he is a sort of international accuser, who, in the name of all the Contracting States, denounces the guilty man to justice, and is, at the same time, responsible for his accusation, as representative of that particular Government whose officer he is, and in whose name in particular he effected the capture. He is primarily interested in the condemnation of the accused, which secures to him that part of the confiscated ship and cargo which belongs to his Government, to be divided among the staff and the crew of the cruizer. So that he is, or rather his Government is in his person, a responsible agent, with the right to force on, by his acts and protestations, the acts of the Public Administration of the State to which the judicial tribunal belongs; he is, in fact, a real civil party, *sui generis*. These ideas being premised, it is easy to establish the utility of the dispositions of the Treaties relative to the mode of proceeding, or the competence of the tribunal which is called upon to judge, in the cases of which we treat.

32. There can be no doubt that Article VIII of the Convention of March 1833, providing for the case of the cruizer being condemned to pay the damages and interests, adds that this condemnation may be pronounced by the tribunal before which the process against the ship shall take place. But this concession must not be interpreted as a command—"may be," but, when possible, it "ought" to be decided by the laws of the country. In other terms, the Treaty, distinguishing the penal action against the captured from the civil action which it may bring against the cruizer, wishes that, for simplicity of proceeding, the two actions may come under the same judge. This would be contrary to law, which forbids positively the penal judge from being concerned in any manner in the question of damages and interests against the prosecutor; but, conceding the faculty in a fixed manner, it does not in any way modify those laws which regulate the manner and the conditions of its exercise. So, adhering to the spirit of the Treaty, and departing for one moment from the laws of the country concerning this matter, we believe that this faculty of judging concerning damages is conceded to the penal tribunal, on the condition that it exercises it contemporaneously with the penal judgment against the ship arrested. The words, "may be pronounced by the tribunal before which the action against the arrested ship has been brought," suppose the action to be pending and the ship seized, and neither absolved or liberated; that is in the case in which, by one sentence, they judge the innocence of the accused and the payment of damages. Still, whatever may be the interpretation of the words of the Treaty, in those countries in which the penal laws are different from ours, it is certain that with us the faculty of deciding about the question of damages is conceded to the tribunal that judges the crime, but subject to certain rules that regulate its exercise, and from which the Treaty certainly does not derogate; the more so that one reads in the Criminal Code of 1847, of a later date than the Treaty itself (1833), and than the adhesion of the Piedmontese Government (1834): Article VII of the Treaty of 30th November, 1831, directs that captured ships be judged according to the laws of their own country; it is natural, therefore, that, according to these same laws, the faculty of obtaining from the same tribunal the judgment for damages and costs against the capturer, ought to be applied for the benefit of the other side ("*secundum naturam est commodum cujusque rei eum sequi quem sequatur incommodum.*")

33. Now Article 499 of our Criminal Code declares that, "in case of absolution, or of a declaration that there is no ground for a prosecution (precisely the case of Captain Aquarone), the judges will condemn, where proper, the Civil party to pay damages, &c., to the accused, reserving to itself, besides, any powers it may have the right to exercise before the competent tribunals.

"By virtue of said Article (so states the Commentary of the Code of Civil Law, by Signors Pisannelli, Maneca, and Seraloza) the accused can at once demand from the Penal Judge his acquittal, and at the same time demand reparation for the losses inflicted on him by the capturer; or, being acquitted by the Penal Judge, he may proceed to claim damages before the Civil Magistrate.

"Between the competency of the Criminal and Civil Judges in this action there is this difference, that the first can only decide upon it at the time he gives his verdict in the criminal cause, and only in so far as it is proposed against the

Civil party; so that, if the accused appealed to the Penal Judge after he had adjudged the penal cause, he, the Judge, would have no power to examine such claims. Even for that action the competence of said Judge is dependent on its being connected with the penal trial, and restricted to the parties concerned in it."

These words show that not only do our laws require that the Penal Judge should exercise the power of deciding upon damages in favour of the defendant at the same time that he absolves him or quashes the proceedings against him, but also establishes, as a general principle of law, that he can only do so in the interest of the parties under judgment. And, in truth, the change of parties suffices to change the judgment; but the Judge can decide upon damages in as far as they concern the parties before him. To admit, in the later action for damages, persons not concerned in the penal action, is the same as to proceed to an entirely new judgment as regards materials and persons, and to do it as a Civil Judge, that is, without jurisdiction, and, in consequence, useless.

34. The Council of the Admiralty, by a Decree of October 25, 1845, after a long criminal process, absolved the crew and passengers of the "*Sansone*," except a certain Ferreira and the captain of the "*Sansone*;" but later, *i. e.*, on November 12, by another similar Decree, it provided for Ferreira and the captain Aquarone. To the second Decree it annexed the following clause:—

"The right, to the above-mentioned G. B. Aquarone, and to any other interested party, of enforcing any claims which, in prosecution of this judgment, and in accordance with the terms of the Treaty, they may possess."

Following, therefore, one of the two hypotheses of Article 499, criminal proceeding above mentioned, the Council did not avail itself of its faculty; did not decide upon the question of damages, but reserved to those interested the exercise of any rights which they might have. The criminal tribunal, therefore, according to the rules of the Penal Code, became, from that moment, incompetent to pronounce on the case that followed.

35. And this incompetence is most positive for him who wishes to confront the parties to the civil process with those who took part in the judgment which the same Court of Admiralty calls, and which is, a Civil judgment. In the first were Lieutenant Glynn, Aquarone, the crew, and the passengers; but in the second, Settimio Noli takes part, who was never in the cause; and Aquarone, without others, and Layton, who was not in the first judgment, and Glynn, were the chief parties summoned. Layton is the only one condemned, *i. e.*, the one newly summoned in a cause quite distinct from the penal one, on a separate citation, and in the ordinary forms of the civil proceedings.

36. Thus, then, the Council of the Admiralty, in adjudging damages and costs by a Decree posterior to that by which it exhausted its legal jurisdiction towards persons different from those concerned in the preceding judgment, and also in a judgment entirely civil, and introduced by civil citation, acted in a matter beyond its competence, and gave a Decree which in our opinion it had no right to do.

37. It will be said, perhaps, that the Council itself called the second judgment a sequel to the first. The civil judgment for the payment of damages cannot be considered a sequel to the penal judgment already finished, especially as it was not between the same parties. The liquidation may be considered a sequel to the judgment which decreed the right to a claim for damages; but we declare the criminal Judge incompetent to declare this right, of a nature purely civil, by a Decree later than that by which he put an end to the penal trial, and to declare it at a new summons, and, what is more, between other parties than those concerned in the penal cause.

38. He might easily have declared this right at the proper time in pronouncing on the accusation, and he might have done it by virtue of the Treaty, and the laws of the country; but these very laws, in regulating the exercise of its powers, imposed the two conditions above mentioned, that it should pronounce judgment upon the same parties as those concerned in the criminal action, at the same time as he decided the criminal case.

III.

39. Setting aside now for a while the question of invalidity from incompetency, we declare our opinion that the civil judgment for the payment of

damages procured by a new citation, is null for another reason, viz., that Mr. Layton was not summoned to appear otherwise than by the form of proceeding, then in force in the Duchy of Genoa, prescribed for the summons of him who had never inhabited the kingdom; which form of proceeding we consider inapplicable to the present case. Indeed, when the Admiralty passed sentence in the penal action, it settled nothing about the damages, but took cognizance later of a civil action to that effect; it had the double right (supposing it to be competent) of examining the quality of the party called to judgment, and of deciding if, in citing the party, the proper legal forms required by his condition had been gone through.

40. Had that been done, the Council would have perceived that the Commander Layton would have appeared at the penal trial as representative of his Government, and that on that account he ought also to have been summoned in the civil cause for the same reason; or rather, it would have perceived that, according to the spirit of the Treaty, damages can be decreed against that foreign cruiser who legally represents his own Government in the penal case in which he takes part, and that on that account, when in this judgment nothing was settled about the losses, and a new trial was set on foot for that purpose in the Civil Courts, no decree was emitted as to the damages, and as a new trial for that purpose was moved in the Civil Courts, the action ought to be brought against the responsible Government, in the person of its agent, the cruiser.

41. So, for example, if any functionary, take whom you will, of any Department of the English Administration, in the exercise of his functions, should in the name of his Government do anything for which the Government was in a manner responsible, and by virtue of a Treaty held liable for damages by the tribunals of the country to which the individual considering himself injured belongs, there can be no doubt that this functionary, as part of the Government, would have to be summoned through a diplomatic channel.

42. It is true that Article 9 of Tit. 21 of Regulations for the Proceedings in the Duchy of Genoa, permitted that those who had never lived in the kingdom might be summoned by a citation made at the door of the tribunal; but it is true also that this Article was made bad use of, thanks to the wording, in the person of the Director of the Custom-house in London, for an act of his Ministry, that is, in his quality of officer of the English Government. For the Article, in speaking of those who had never inhabited this State, could only intend to refer to those persons who might have inhabited it, that is, to the individual and not to the Government Agents, who in this respect are persons acting in the name of their Governments. So also the Commander Layton, being the English Commander commissioned to capture those ships suspected of Slave Traffic, is neither more nor less a Government officer than the chief of the Custom-house in London, so that he also ought to have been summoned through a diplomatic channel.

43. The counter-proof of this one theory is furnished by the hypothesis, that if, pending the penal judgment, or after, but before the summons, or in the course of the trial for damages, Layton had died, Captain Aquarone and partners would not have addressed themselves to his heirs to obtain this pretended right of theirs. They would have summoned the English Consul, and continued the action against him; and if information or explanations had been required, and which might have been obtained from the registers or crew of the cruiser, the Judge would have demanded them from the Consul. So also the summons to Layton ought to have been addressed to the Consul, that he might cause this Commander of the cruiser of the British Government to appear, or appear himself.

44. The parties had already acknowledged these principles, while the penal judgment was pending. In truth, by their appeal to the magistrate on the 4th September, 1848, they requested that the English Consul should be summoned, as well as Mr. Edmond Glynn, to hear the Commander of the cruiser, and through him the English Government, condemned to pay damages. The Council of the Admiralty, in that state of things, decreed that it was not a case for giving a Decree from the Court, which does not mean that it refused to summon the Consul in person. Why was the new citation never renewed in the terms of the preceding one? Why, when the Consul was present, did they wish, instead, to summon the absent Layton at the sound of the trumpet. The

answer is easy. Because Aquarone and Noli were certain that by that means the trial would proceed without opponents.

45. We can present the parties with the following dilemma:—Either you meant to summon Layton as a private individual responsible for his own act, and the English Government is not obliged to pay for him; or you summoned him as a cruizer, representing his Government, in which case you did not observe the required legal forms.

If our reasoning is right, it follows that the cause, terminated by the condemnation of Layton, was not legally contested, and the judgment was never legalized; so that it must be considered as having never taken place. The conduct also of the advocate nominated for Layton should be examined, whose acts might be impugned either through negligence or error. But that we are not now called upon to examine, nor have we the necessary documents to form a judgment upon it.

IV.

Now we ask ourselves, how we are to make these reasons prevail against a sentence which they say is passed and adjudged. We answer that a sentence issued against a person never brought to trial, and by an incompetent authority, cannot be considered as valid, if our arguments are, as they seem to us to be, founded on right; so that Layton and the English Government could always dispute it when put into execution against them. Then, and according to circumstances, they would have to determine the manner best suited to make available their reasons before the tribunals of the country, from whose impartial justice they confidently expect the repeal of erroneous and invalid proceedings.

Turin, August 27, 1855.

(Signed)

SEIALOZA.
CHAPINO.

SPAIN.

No. 274.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 31, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th of October last,* forwarding to your Lordship copies of a correspondence which had passed between Señor Pacheco and myself, relative to the importation into Cuba of Yucatan Indians, as colonists, by virtue of the Royal Decrees of the 22nd of March, 1854, I have now the honour to inclose a translation of a note which I have received from Señor Luzuriaga, in which his Excellency states the reasons which prevent the Spanish Government from introducing any modifications into these Decrees.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 274.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 12, 1855.

UNDER date of the 12th of October last, information was given to your Lordship by this office that it had transcribed, under the same date, to the General Colonial Office the note which had been received from the British Legation, relative to the Royal Decree concerning the importation into the Island of Cuba of colonists proceeding from Yucatan; and the proper answer on this subject having now been received from the aforesaid Colonial Office, I will now proceed to communicate to your Lordship the reasons which are adduced in the same for considering that the Royal Decree in question is not susceptible of any modification whatsoever.

Your Lordship, in order to demonstrate the expediency of this modification, which is now considered to be inadmissible, stated that, considering the state of unceasing struggle between the Indians of Yucatan and the Mexican Government, whose authorities have repeatedly and forcibly transported them out of their country, the Indians who might be transported would be reduced to a state of real slavery, because the aforesaid Decree offers no guarantee or protection to them against the violence and fraud of which they might be the victims.

The first part of the above assertion is undeniable, but, even passing over the objection that Her Majesty's Government cannot interfere with the acts of the Mexican Government, respecting a portion of the natives of the country who are in a state of open rebellion, it is, also, beyond all doubt that the Yucatan Indians have, in the Royal Decree in question, the means of escaping the hardships they are undergoing, since they can establish themselves in the Island of Cuba, under the protection of beneficent laws, by engaging themselves as free labourers, on such conditions as they may voluntarily stipulate with the masters.

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 410.

Your Lordship thinks that this part of the above-mentioned Decree might be rendered illusory, in consequence of the ignorance of the colonists, who can, generally, neither read nor write, and who might, therefore, easily be made the victims of criminal intrigues in the contracts of engagement; but if your Lordship examines the Royal Decree above referred to, you will see that this eventuality has been foreseen and remedied. The contracts between the colonists and their masters are to be drawn up in the language of the former, and they are to bear the indispensable requisite of the authorization ("visto bueno") of the Spanish Consul, which is a guarantee against every kind of fraud, since it cannot be supposed, nor do I think your Lordship will suppose for one moment, that a public functionary who deserves the confidence of his Government would authorize any reprobated acts, which, on the other hand, as soon as their illegitimacy had been demonstrated, would remain null and void. Moreover, if, notwithstanding such precautions, the colonist should subsequently consider himself injured by the contract he had entered into with his master, the 27th Article of the aforesaid Royal Decree affords him the means of avoiding the consequences of his engagement, since he is thereby entitled to rescind it after the expiration of six years; and in this circumstance your Lordship will find an argument which destroys what your Lordship was pleased to observe in your aforesaid note, with regard to the difficulties which might arise from the time of duration of the contracts between the colonists and their masters not being fixed in the Royal Decree in question.

If your Lordship bears in mind that in stipulations of this kind, it belongs to the free will of the contracting parties to determine the time, manner, form, and price of their respective obligations, you will acknowledge that the Government could not establish any limits to a right of so sacred a nature.

Such are the considerations on which the General Colonial Office has founded its opinion for not proposing to Her Majesty the modification requested by your Lordship, and I trust that the British Government, fully convinced of the justice of these considerations, will persist no longer in its demand contained in your aforesaid note of 6th October last.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) CLAUDIO. ANTON LUZURIAGA.

No. 275.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 1, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 9th ultimo,* desiring me to call the attention of the Spanish Government to the condition and prospects of the emancipados in the Island of Cuba, I have the honour to inclose a translation of Señor Luzuriaga's reply to the representation which I addressed to his Excellency on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 275.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Aranjuez, March 29, 1855.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's note of the 24th instant, relative to the situation in which the emancipated negroes in the Island of Cuba are supposed to be, with reference to communications from the British Consul-General at that place; and I have this day transcribed it to the General Colonial Office, in order that the proper

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 448.

information on the points mentioned in the same may be requested from the Captain-General of the aforesaid Island.

As soon as the proper answer reaches me, I will lose no time in transmitting it to your Lordship, and in the meantime I avail, &c.

(Signed) CLAUDIO. ANTON LUZURIAGA.

No. 276.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 14, 1855.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo,* stating that Señor Luzuriaga has informed you that the authorities of Cuba have seized and declared to be free 257 negroes, who were landed in or near the Isle of Pines, and 263 who were found in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda.

The last-mentioned affair was reported by Mr. Crawford in a despatch of the 18th of August, 1854, a copy of which was transmitted to you in my despatch of the 26th of September.*

I have to approve of your having informed Señor Luzuriaga that Her Majesty's Government would receive with satisfaction these proofs of the determination of the Spanish Government to fulfil their treaty engagements towards Great Britain; and I have to instruct you to confirm that assurance on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 277.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the introduction of the Yucatan Indian prisoners into Cuba from Mexico, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, copies of further despatches† upon this subject which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico, and from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana.

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate these despatches to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs; and to state that you are instructed again to draw the attention of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to the evidence that this importation of Indian prisoners from Mexico is Slave Trade of a most cruel and unjustifiable character, and calling for the prompt interference of that Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 278.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 12.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 27, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a translation of a note which has been addressed to me by Señor Luzuriaga, informing me that the General second in command in the Havana had been unable to obtain sufficient proofs of a connivance at an infraction of

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 450.

† Ibid., No. 404.

‡ Nos. 200 and 326.

the law, on the part of some subaltern employés of the island, denounced by Mr. Consul-General Crawford in December last, as having occurred on occasion of the disembarkation at Nuevitas, Nuevas Grandes, and Santa Cruz, of Bozal negroes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 278.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Aranjuez, April 24, 1855.

ACCORDING to information received from the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, the British Consul in the Havana addressed to him on the 21st of December last, a communication in which he made a complaint that certain Bozal negroes had been disembarked at Nuevitas, Nuevas Grandes, and Santa Cruz, supposing that several officials whom he designated had been guilty of connivance in the violation of the law which prohibits the introduction of Bozal negroes.

The aforesaid Captain-General lost no time in directing that the necessary steps should be taken to ascertain what truth there might be in the denunciation made by the British Consul, and to inflict a severe punishment on any public functionary against whom the grave charge which has been preferred might be proved; and although this delicate commission was entrusted to no less distinguished an authority than the General second in command of the Island, he was not able to obtain any evidence sufficient to justify proceedings against the accused.

The above-mentioned Consul was, in due time, made acquainted with the whole of the aforesaid proceedings; but, nevertheless, I have thought it proper to inform your Lordship of the occurrence of which the foregoing is a brief account.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) CLAUDIO. ANTON LUZURIAGA.

No. 279.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, giving an account of numerous preparations for slave-trading expeditions which were being made at the Havana; and I have to desire that your Lordship will bring these facts before the Spanish Government, and at the same time state that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that the Captain-General of Cuba is animated with the best intentions, and that his efforts are perseveringly directed to the suppression of the Slave Trade; but that, so long as enormous gains are to be acquired by it, and whilst the subordinate officers are unable to resist temptation, so long will it continue, unless the Spanish Government will consent to the measures of rigour necessary for its extinction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 280.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 12, 185

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba, I transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a further despatch upon this subject which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, together with a copy of my reply thereto.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 281.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 21, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of two despatches† which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting that a landing of 600 Africans was effected at or near Cabanas on the 31st of March, and pointing out how clearly it is proved by the circumstances of this case, and by the failure of the attempts made to discover and seize the negroes so landed, and to bring the guilty parties to justice, that the Captain-General does not possess sufficient power or means to check, still less to put down, the Cuba Slave Trade.

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs the remarks of Mr. Crawford upon this subject, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government feel convinced that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will see that, unless the authorities of Cuba shall be really and effectually empowered to search for and to seize newly-landed negroes, it will be impossible for the Captain-General faithfully to fulfil the Treaty engagements of Spain respecting the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 282.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 3, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, referring to Lord Howden's despatch of the 23rd of March, and stating that, although the orders of the Captain-General of Cuba are apparently issued with a sincere and earnest desire to enforce the suppression of the Slave Trade, yet it is certain that slaves have been landed of late in Cuba with less difficulty than formerly.

I have to instruct you to communicate the substance of the inclosed despatch to General Zavala.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 342 and 345.

† Nos. 338 and 344.

‡ No. 348.

No. 283.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, stating that a fresh cargo of 192 Indians had been brought to Havana from Yucatan for Messrs. Goicouria, and that these Indians had been forced to sign contracts binding themselves to serve as colonists in Cuba, and had been sent to Sisal under a guard, and tied together as prisoners, in which manner they were embarked.

I have to instruct you to state to General Zavala the facts mentioned in Mr. Crawford's despatch, and to express to his Excellency the deep regret of Her Majesty's Government that an open and barefaced Slave Traffic with these wretched Indians, made prisoners of war, should be carried on at a Spanish Colony by Spanish subjects, with the full knowledge of the authorities of Her Catholic Majesty, thus creating in Yucatan the same state of things which exists in the interior of Africa, where wars are carried on against certain tribes for the sole purpose of making and selling prisoners. And you will observe that it appears to Her Majesty's Government impossible that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty can intend to make themselves responsible for acts so revolting to humanity.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 284.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1855.

I HAVE to instruct you to communicate to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs the substance of the accompanying copy of a despatch,† which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, stating that he has reason to believe that it will be shown by the result of a late inquiry which has been made as to the fate of the emancipados in Cuba, that between 3,000 and 4,000 of that unfortunate class, who ought to be free, have been converted into slaves, by having been made to supply the places of an equal number of slaves who have died.

I inclose, for your information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have addressed to Mr. Crawford on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 285.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a note which I have thought right to address to General Zavala, calling his Excellency's attention to the case of the negress Mary Gordon, unjustly detained as a slave in Porto Rico.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

* No. 349.

† No. 350.

‡ No. 352.

Inclosure in No. 285.

Mr. Otway to General Zavala.

Sir,

Madrid, June 25, 1855.

IN the enumeration of the various cases of questions and claims pending between your Excellency's Department and this Legation, which I had the honour of forwarding to your Excellency in my note of yesterday's date, I find that an accidental omission was made, which I do not regret, as it affords me the opportunity of more specially calling your Excellency's attention to the particular case I allude to, that of the unfortunate British subject, Mary Gordon, kidnapped many years ago from St. Kitts, and held as a slave by a proprietor of Puerto Rico, named Antonio Guadalupe Colon.

I will not trouble your Excellency with the details of this case, as they will be found in Lord Howden's notes to your Excellency's predecessors of the 22nd of November and of the 16th of January last, but I will venture to express the conviction I entertain, that the present Government of Spain will not be found to be less well-disposed, or less considerate of representations addressed to it by this Legation, than was that of which the Marquis de Miraflores was a member, and which, in an almost similar case, that of the negress Mariana Bethel, in November 1851, decided on her being set free.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

No. 286.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 30, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to inclose a translation of a note which I have just received from General Zavala, stating that Lord Howden's note of the 6th instant, respecting numerous preparations for slave-trading expeditions which were being made at the Havana, had been referred to the Colonial Department.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 286.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 23, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to state to you that I have transcribed to the General Colonial Office the note which General Caradoc addressed to me on the 6th instant, denouncing, with reference to a despatch from the British Consul at the Havana, the preparations which were being made by some vessels in the Island of Cuba to engage in the Slave Trade.

I have directed the aforesaid office to communicate the above-mentioned note to General Concha, in order that this functionary, if the information which has been given to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at the Havana should prove to be correct, may prevent any such projects being carried into effect.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 287.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th ultimo,* and I have to inform you that I approve of your having specially brought to the notice of General Zavala the case of the negress Mary Gordon, who was stolen away from St. Kitts, and is now detained in slavery at Porto Rico.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 288.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 16.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 7, 1855.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose a translation of the answer which I have received from General Zavala to the note which I addressed to his Excellency on the 25th ultimo, copy of which was forwarded in my despatch of the 30th ultimo,* requesting that Mary Gordon, detained as a slave at Porto Rico, might be set free.

Your Lordship will be sorry to see that the Spanish Government refuse to accede to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government in this matter, and strongly animadvert on the proceedings of Her Majesty's late Consul at Porto Rico, Mr. Lindegren, in regard to this particular case.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 288.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 28, 1855.

THE Legation which is now under your charge was, in due time, made acquainted that copies had been transmitted to the General Colonial Office, for the proper investigation of the matter in question, of Lord Howden's notes of the 22nd November and 16th January last, soliciting the liberation of the slave, Mary Gordon, who was supposed to be unduly kept in a state of slavery by her master, a land-owner of Porto Rico, named Don Antonio Guadalupe Colon.

Now that the information which was requested on this subject from the Captain-General of Porto Rico has been received at this Foreign Office, I will proceed to reply to the two aforesaid notes from Lord Howden and to yours of the 25th ultimo, on the same subject.

The facts referred to in the above-mentioned representations, as appears from the official documents annexed to the process, are the following:—

On the 8th of February, 1853, the English Consul at Porto Rico solicited from the Captain-General of the Island the liberation of a woman named Mary Gordon, who, the Consul stated, had been kidnapped from a British island and sold as a slave, in the Island of Porto Rico, to Don Antonio Guadalupe Colon, residing at Caguas. As this denunciation might be of importance to the woman who was supposed to have been kidnapped, and as an act of mere deference towards Mr. Lindegren, the Captain-General directed that information on the subject should be requested from the local Judge; and as it appeared from the reply of the

* No. 285.

latter functionary that the aforesaid Mary Gordon was to be conveyed to St. Thomas, where she had been purchased, for the identification of her person, she was consequently conveyed to that place, through the same Judge, and especially recommended by the Captain-General to the Governor of the above-mentioned island, always with the view of showing a deference towards the English Consul, and of doing a favour, as far as possible, to the party concerned.

This resolution having been communicated, in due time, to Mr. Lindegren, and this functionary having appointed an agent at St. Thomas to act as his representative in the matter, and the proceedings relative to the identification of the person who was supposed to have been kidnapped having been performed, the judicial proceedings were carried on by the Judge of Caguas, with the full cognizance of the British Consul, who appointed a lawyer, whose representations in writing were transmitted to the Judge by the Captain-General, in order that they might be taken into consideration in the course of the process. The Judge of Caguas pronounced a sentence unfavourable to the slave Mary Gordon, and the Royal Audiencia confirmed the sentence by declaring her to be in a state of lawful slavery.

This sentence gave rise to several and rather improper communications from Mr. Lindegren, which the Captain-General, out of mere deference, transmitted to the Royal Audiencia, as he also did with a supplicatory letter from the Judge of Caguas, claiming from the English Consul the delivery of the aforesaid slave, Mary Gordon, whom that functionary kept still in his possession, resisting himself to deliver her up.

The Audiencia confirmed its first sentence, and ordered that the slave should be restored to her legitimate owner, which sentence was carried into effect.

I trust that this exact and detailed statement of the facts will be sufficient to convince the Government of Her Britannic Majesty that the Spanish authorities at Porto Rico have done everything in their power and all that they could possibly do to afford to the slave Mary Gordon the means of bringing forward the right she might possess, by sending her, in the first place, to St. Thomas, that she might there identify her person, and by subsequently affording to her every possible and legitimate means of defence, including that of the representative before the Court of Justice granted to her by law. Her slavery, therefore, is a legal truth, by virtue of a sentence pronounced by the competent tribunals, and upon the grounds of justice, whereof there can be no discussion.

After the above statement of facts, you will perceive that no analogy either does or can exist between the case of Mary Gordon, and the one which you quote in the note to which I am now replying, relative to the negress Mary Anne, whose liberation was granted in 1851. In this latter case, the question was that of a slave, born, as was stated, in the Bahama Islands, who was conveyed by her owner, Isabel Bethel, to the Island of Cuba, and sold there by her mistress to Doña Aurora Rossi. The question, therefore was, whether Mary Anne was, or was not, born in the Bahama Islands, and whether the aforesaid Señora Rossi was, or was not, to be considered as the legitimate owner and possessor of the slave, since she had purchased her *bonâ fide* from her legitimate owner, Isabel Bethel, even notwithstanding the existence of the 46th Act of the British Parliament, George III, cap. 52, which, in no case, could come into operation, nor produce any effect whatever, in the Spanish dominions. And although Her Majesty's Government and its functionaries in the Havana gave an affirmative decision upon the two latter questions, as the matter had not been submitted to the action of the Courts of Justice, and, therefore, no judicial sentence had been pronounced thereupon, Her Majesty's Government was enabled to perform an act of especial deference towards the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, by determining that a letter of freedom should be given to the negress Mary Anne; but consigning at the same time, as was consigned in the note addressed to the British Legation on the 14th of November, 1851, by the Marquis de Miraflores, that, as that act of friendship and of mere favour was not founded on legal reasons or considerations of any kind whatever, "it could never be referred

to, in future, as a precedent for reclamations of the same nature." But as the above-mentioned Doña Aurora Rossi was the possessor, in a legitimate right, of the slave Mary Anne, 428 hard dollars were paid to her by the treasury, as an indemnification for compelling her to grant the letter of freedom to the aforesaid negress.

In the case of Mary Gordon, the circumstances and the antecedents were different, as has been stated above; the matter was submitted to the action of the tribunals, and after having passed with the most strict scrupulousness through all the proceedings and formalities prescribed by the laws, a definitive sentence was pronounced which was carried into effect.

The interference, therefore, of the British Consul in a purely judicial matter, and after an executive sentence had been pronounced, is the more to be wondered at, and appears the more improper. The intrusion of Mr. Lindegren in this case is blameable, because neither his private nor his official character authorised him to bring forward such a reclamation in a matter which had been already decided upon by the proper tribunals. And I need not proceed, writing to so enlightened a person as you are, to prove what is consigned in the most obvious elements of jurisprudence with regard to executive sentences, which allow no discussion nor controversy respecting the decision which has been thus decided on. And I have to add, that foreign Consuls in the Spanish Colonies possess no other character than that of purely commercial agents, and that, therefore, in their intercourse with, and representations to, the local authorities, they are bound to confine themselves exclusively to those which directly emanate from the very same nature of their institution.

The above observations refer to the course pursued by the British Consul at Porto Rico, in the case which has given rise to the notes from the British Legation to which I am now replying; and with regard to the principle of jurisprudence which is involved in this matter, it only remains for me to consign that the solution of all questions relative to the civil state of persons belongs always, and in all cases, to the Courts of justice, according to the laws of Spain.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 289.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 28, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th instant, inclosing a copy of a note which you had received from General Zavala in reply to your representation on the case of Mary Gordon, illegally detained in slavery at Porto Rico; and I have to express my regret at the nature of General Zavala's communication. I hope, however, that this refusal of the Spanish Government to do justice to the unfortunate woman in question is not to be considered final, as General Zavala's note omits any allusion to the important fact that, in the receipt given by the man who, in 1822, sold Mary Gordon to her present owner, it is stated that she is "of the English nation."

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 290.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a note which I have received from General Zavala in reply to one addressed to Señor Luzuriaga on the 2nd of January last by Lord Howden, in obedience

to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of December last,* respecting the disembarkation at the Ensenada de Cochinos, and at Punta Nueva, of three cargoes of Africans, amounting in all to about 1,800.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 290.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Lorenzo, July 14, 1855.

THE information requested from the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, respecting the disembarkation of three cargoes of Bozal negroes at the Ensenada de Cochinos and Punta Nueva, making a total number of about 1,800, denounced to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty by Mr. Crawford, and alluded to in the note addressed by Lord Howden to Señor Luzuriaga on the 2nd of January last, having been received at this office under my charge, I now at once proceed to reply to the aforesaid note.

On the 18th of November last, Mr. Crawford, the British Consul-General at the Havana, addressed a communication to the Captain-General of the island, wherein, with reference to another communication from the Judge of the Mixed Court of Justice established in that city, he asked the Captain-General whether he had received any intelligence of a landing of 700 Bozal negroes having taken place in the District of Bahia Honda. General Concha stated, in reply, that he had received no information whatsoever concerning the occurrence in question, which induced him to suppose that there was no truth in it. On the 22nd of the same month, Mr. Crawford rectified the information contained in his preceding communication, and stated, with reference to a denunciation from the English Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, that a slave-trading cutter had made her appearance in those waters, and not finding it easy to effect the landing on that part of the coast, she took provisions and sailed for another place, carrying 610 Bozal negroes on board. Subsequently, Mr. Crawford denounced that another cargo was very shortly expected at Nuevitas, in which district it was already known that two other cargoes had been landed, out of which only 95 slaves had been seized by the authorities, whilst the total number landed by the two vessels amounted to about 1,200.

In consequence of these denunciations, the Captain-General issued the most peremptory instructions to Don Joaquim Manzano, the General second in command of the island, directing him to endeavour to ascertain, by every means in his power, what truth there might be in the denounced landings; but, notwithstanding the energetic activity and scrupulousness with which the aforesaid instructions were fulfilled, they did not produce the sought-for result of discovering the correctness of the denounced facts, which induces the belief that the information given to Mr. Crawford was devoid of foundation, and so it was stated to Mr. Crawford by the superior authority of the island, who acquainted him, at the same time, with the orders which had been issued, the exertions made, in consequence, for the investigation of the facts, and the negative result they had produced.

General Concha, however, not being satisfied with the aforesaid exertions, and having received intelligence, although of a rather vague character, relative to disembarkations of Bozal negroes in some parts of the island, caused judicial proceedings to be instituted for the purpose of ascertaining the truth or the falseness of such disembarkations which were supposed to have taken place, not only at the Ensenada de Cochinos in the district of Matanzas, but also at Cienfuegos, Cardenas, Batabanó, Macuriges, Zaguarama, and other places; but from all the investigations

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 430.

made by the authorities of the aforesaid places with a zeal and scrupulousness which cannot be sufficiently praised, it appeared that no disembarkation whatever of negroes, proceeding from Africa, had taken place in any of the above-mentioned districts.

With reference to these proceedings, General Concha states that the very same day on which he assumed for the second time the superior command of the island, he received an official letter from the Alcalde Mayor of Puerto Principe, informing him that he had caused a merchant named Don José Planas to be arrested on suspicion of his being the fitter-out of an expedition of 750 Bozal negroes, which had been landed on the coast of Nuevitas. Consequently, the proper judicial process was ordered to be instituted, and submitted, in due time, to the opinion of the Advocate of the Crown; and as this functionary stated in his report that there was sufficient evidence to prove that the landing of the expedition in question had been carried into effect, and that the negroes who had been seized, as forming part of that expedition, ought to be considered as Bozal ones, and consequently declared to be emancipados, 108 out of the 371 captured negroes were at once set at liberty—a measure which was not made extensive to the remaining number of negroes, because the advocate did not find in the process so clear an evidence as was required for that purpose. The process is now submitted to the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, not only for the purpose of giving its opinion as regards the consultative vote proposed by the Queen's Advocate, but also of pronouncing such definitive sentence as so respectable a tribunal may think most consistent with justice.

It appears, therefore, that from the number of the 750 Bozal negroes who, it is proved, were landed in the district of Nuevitas, up to 1,200, which is the number mentioned in Mr. Crawford's communication, and up to the 1,800 denounced in Lord Howden's note to which I am replying, there is a considerable difference.

On the other hand, General Concha declared 108 negroes out of the 371 who were seized at Nuevitas, as forming part of the aforesaid expedition, to be emancipados; and he very likely will shortly make a similar declaration with regard to the remaining number, if the opinion of the Audiencia Pretorial is favourable to the adoption of this measure. Therefore, if the 371 negroes who were seized, out of the 750 who were imported, are declared to be emancipados, it is evident that they do not exist in the island in a state of slavery, and it is also evident that they are in no way injured by General Concha's Decree of the 17th November.

I trust that the above observations will be sufficient to prove to you that no disembarkation whatever of African slaves has taken place, either at the Eusenada de Cochinos, or at any other of the above-mentioned districts; that the information given by Mr. Crawford is somewhat exaggerated; and that a certain number of the negroes who, it has been ascertained, were imported into the district of Nuevitas, are not in a state of slavery in the island, as has been demonstrated above.

At all events, Her Britannic Majesty's Government may rest assured that the Spanish authorities in the Island of Cuba are continuing the persecution of the Slave Trade with constancy, activity, and energy, in conformity with the orders which are given to them by Her Majesty's Government, in fulfilment of the existing Treaties between Spain and England.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 291.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 15.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 9, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to state that I thought it would be as well to address a note to General Zavala, expressing your Lordship's regret at the nature of his

Excellency's communication to me, respecting the illegal detention in slavery at Porto Rico of Mary Gordon, and the hope that the refusal of the Spanish Government to do justice to this unfortunate woman is not to be considered final.

His Excellency has returned to me the reply a translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 291.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation,)

Sir,

San Lorenzo, August 4, 1855.

I HAVE received the note which you have done me the honour of addressing to me under date of the 2nd instant, wherein, on acknowledging the receipt of my communication of the 28th of June last, relative to the slave Mary Gordon, you express the hope you entertain that the decision which has been adopted on this subject will not be considered final, since, in my aforesaid note, no allusion was made to the circumstance that, in the receipt given by the individual who sold the above-mentioned slave to her present owner in the year 1822, it is stated that she is of the English nation.

You will allow me to state to you that, after the detailed and luminous explanations contained in my above-mentioned note of the 28th June, I did not expect that there could still exist any motive for renewing a correspondence which was to be considered as completely terminated. For this reason, on replying to your last note, I shall necessarily be obliged to refer to all the statements which I have already made upon this question to the Legation now placed under your charge.

When the slave Mary Gordon declared that she had been kidnapped on a British island, and sold to her legitimate owner Don Antonio Guadalupe Colon, the Captain-General of Porto Rico, being desirous of doing everything in his power in favour of the aforesaid woman, and of showing his deference towards the British Consul, who appeared to take so great an interest in the matter, ordered, in concert with the local Judge, that she should be conveyed to St. Thomas, where she had been sold, in order that her person might be identified; a measure which was brought to the knowledge of Mr. Lindegren, for the purpose of enabling him to be, either himself or some person delegated by him, an eye-witness of all the formalities and judicial proceedings which were to be performed; and this protection was carried into effect with so much liberality that the British Consul appointed a lawyer to take up the defence of the slave, and to afford her the means of proving the truth of her assertions. The result of these proceedings were, three sentences pronounced by the proper Courts of Justice, in every one of which the verdict was unfavourable to the slave Mary Gordon, declaring her to be in a state of legal slavery. And I now at once leave for your enlightened impartiality to consider whether, during all the proceedings and formalities of the process, frequent occasions were not afforded to the slave in question which enabled her to demonstrate before the tribunals the validity of the argument to which you allude in your note, relative to her nationality.

With regard to the hope you entertain that the decision which has been come to on this affair may or may not be modified, I have to state to you that the Queen's Government has come to no decision whatever respecting the civil state of the slave Mary; it has merely been the channel through which the Legation under your charge has been informed of the sentence pronounced on this matter by the Courts of Justice, which are the only proper authority to which the solution of such matters belongs according to the laws of Spain. The sentence of the tribunals has been carried into effect, and leaves no room for any appeal; consequently, the slavery of Mary Gordon is a legal truth, by virtue of a formal sentence

pronounced by the proper Courts of Justice, the foundations of justice whereof cannot be subjected to discussion.

I have no doubt that these explanations will fully satisfy the Government of a country like Great Britain, the enlightened and wise legislation of which consigns as one of its most precious foundations the independence of the Courts of Justice, and the religious scrupulousness with which their verdicts or sentences are carried into execution.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 292.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 23, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith translation of a note which I have received from General Zavala, in reply to the representation which I addressed to his Excellency, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch to me of the 4th ultimo,* respecting further landings of Yucatan Indians in Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 292.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Lorenzo, August 15, 1855.

HAVING transcribed, in due time, to the General Colonial Office, Lord Howden's note of the 19th of May, and yours of the 10th of July last, denouncing, with reference to the English Consul at the Havana, the abuses which are supposed to have been committed in the Island of Cuba, by importing Yucatan prisoners, under the pretext of their being colonists, I have received from the aforesaid office a communication, dated the 4th instant, stating that copies of the above-mentioned notes had been that day transmitted to the Captain-General of the Island, in order that he may report to Her Majesty's Government on the different points therein contained. At the same time, the Colonial Office states to me that it has nothing to add to that which it already stated in its communication of the 14th December last, with regard to the essential part of this question, the contents whereof were transcribed to the Legation now under your charge, in the note of the 12th March last.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 293.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 25.)

My Lord,

Madrid, September 20, 1855.

REFERRING to Lord Howden's despatch to your Lordship of the 1st of April last, stating that in answer to the representation which, in consequence of your Lordship's instructions, he had addressed to the Spanish Government respecting the condition and prospects of the emancipados, Señor Luzuriaga had promised that the matter should be inquired into, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, the result of those inquiries, as communicated to me in the note from General Zavala, a translation of which I have the honour to inclose.

* No. 283.

Your Lordship will observe with satisfaction the assurance contained in General Zavala's note, of the intention of Her Catholic Majesty's Government shortly to sanction a new regulation for the treatment of the emancipados, drawn up on the most liberal and equitable bases.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 293.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

San Lorenzo, September 19, 1855.

THE information which was requested from the authorities of the Island of Cuba, respecting the situation of the emancipados in that island, having been received at this First Secretary of State's office, I now proceed to reply to the note addressed by Lord Howden to Señor Luzuriaga upon this subject on the 24th of March last, in consequence of the English Government having been informed that a negress named Angela, after having been consigned to several persons during a period of ten years, was consigned anew without her having received her letter of freedom.

First of all, I have the honour to inform you, in order that you may bring it to the knowledge of your Government, that the Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has submitted to the approval of the Queen's Government the project of a new regulation for emancipated slaves ("Ordenanza de Emancipados"), founded on the most possibly liberal and equitable bases. This project which will very shortly constitute the jurisprudence which is to be in force upon the matter, comprises also the foundations of the system which is now in practice, with regard to the emancipados.

The emancipados, during the first five years subsequent to their seizure, are under the immediate dependence of the Government, and after the expiration of the aforesaid period they begin to earn daily wages, a part of which is deducted and kept in reserve for the purpose of meeting certain expenses which are made in their own interest. Such is the system now in practice, and the only one which can render efficient the vigilance which the Government must exercise over the people of colour. On the other hand, in none of the Treaties at present existing on this matter, has any limited period of time been established for the duration of the aforesaid dependence; and so it is that, never, and at no time whatever, have the negroes obtained their exemption for any longer or shorter period, and that such exemptions have only been granted to them individually, and only as a reward for the good conduct of the emancipado during the time of his residence in the island.

The Queen's Government can do no more than transport, at its own expense, to such place as they may select, those who may not choose to submit to its dependence, as has been done on former occasions; but it neither can nor ought to exempt from such dependence any emancipado whomsoever, merely because a certain period of time has elapsed, and without having taken the proper guarantees, because, besides its not being bound to do so by international engagements, it would produce fatal consequences, and it might even endanger the tranquillity of the island.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 294.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 2, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, inclosing a translation of a note from General Zavala, in which it is stated that the Captain-General of Cuba has submitted to the Spanish Government a draft of a new Ordinance respecting the emancipados in that island, which is drawn up in a very liberal and equitable spirit.

Her Majesty's Government learn with satisfaction that the question as to the emancipados is occupying the attention of Her Catholic Majesty's Government, in order that the condition of that unfortunate class of persons may receive some amelioration; but with reference to the measure which is contemplated, you will point out to General Zavala the formal engagement contracted by the Spanish Government towards Her Majesty's Government, by the note which the Count de Alcoy addressed to Lord Howden on the 15th of March, 1853, stating that all the negroes then in Cuba who became entitled to emancipation under the Treaty of 1817 should receive their freedom upon the expiration of their respective contracts of apprenticeship, so that all of that class should be entirely free before the end of 1853, and that they might, after obtaining their certificates of liberty, continue to reside in Cuba.

And with regard to those negroes whose claim to liberation originated with the Treaty of 1835, Count de Alcoy promised that those amongst them who had completed their five years' term of apprenticeship should also obtain their freedom, and that means should be taken to promote and accelerate the education of such as had not served out that period, so that they might in like manner obtain their certificates of liberty.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 295.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, September 28, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to Lord Howden of the 31st of May last, instructing his Lordship to bring to the notice of the Spanish Government certain statements made by Mr. Consul-General Crawford relative to numerous preparations which were being made at the Havana for slave-trading expeditions, I have the honour to inclose a translation of General Zavala's reply to Lord Howden's representation to Señor Luzuriaga on this matter, in which his Excellency enters at some length into explanations as to all the steps taken and measures adopted by the Captain-General of Cuba for preventing these expeditions and extinguishing this Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 295.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, September 25, 1855.

THE proper information from the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba having been received at this First Secretary of State's office, I proceed to reply to the note addressed by Lord Howden to Señor Luzuriaga on the 6th of June last, in which, with reference to a despatch from

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Mr. Crawford, he denounced the preparations which were being made in the aforesaid island of several expeditions for slave-trading.

First of all, it is expedient to state that nobody has been and is better enabled than the Agent of Her Britannic Majesty's Government at the Havana to appreciate the indefatigable and energetic activity of the Governor and Captain-General of the island in everything connected with the persecution of the Slave Trade.

The above-mentioned functionary, not being sufficiently satisfied with causing all the ships of war in that station to be incessantly occupied with exercising a strict vigilance over the coasts, even to the point of their not being able to attend to any other service which might perhaps be of greater importance, has actually intrusted to the Superior Chief of the Staff, Brigadier Don Joaquim Morales de Rada, a most especial commission to the same effect. From the contents of the communications of the latter officer, it appears that the vigilance becomes every day more strict and severe, since a great portion of the troops stationed in the aforesaid "antille" have been destined to that service.

Whenever the superior authority of the island receives any intelligence which induces him to entertain the slightest suspicion that there is really some intention of carrying a slave-trading expedition into effect, he instantly puts into action every means in his power to prevent it, whilst he, at the same time, adopts energetic measures against any public officer whose conduct bears the slightest appearance of negligence in the fulfilment of his duties; and, as appears from the communications on this subject addressed by General Concha to the Queen's Government, the persecution of the Slave Trade is carried even into the interior of the plantations themselves. Her Britannic Majesty's Government may, therefore, rest assured that the repression of this Traffic has never been so severe and efficient as it is at present.

With regard to the denunciation contained in Lord Howden's note, with reference to a communication from Mr. Crawford, I can assure you that the authorities of the Island of Cuba have not received the slightest information or antecedent confirmatory of such an assertion, which must at once be considered as an unfounded one.

I can also assure you, and request you will have the goodness to bring it to Lord Clarendon's knowledge, that the Queen's Government is fully determined to fulfil with religious scrupulousness its international engagements with the Government of Great Britain.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 296.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, September 28, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, a translation of a note which I have received from General Zavala in answer to mine of the 26th of June last, informing his Excellency with reference to the reports made to your Lordship in Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatches of the 16th April and 13th May, forwarded, in your Lordship's despatch of the 21st of June, to Lord Howden, of a landing of 600 Africans having been effected at or near Cabanas, on the 31st of March, and pointing out the necessity of greater powers being conferred on Captain-General Concha, to enable his Excellency to take more active and energetic measures for putting an end to the Cuba Slave Trade.

General Zavala in his above-mentioned note enters into long explanations of the conduct of the Captain-General and authorities of the Havana, which I trust may be satisfactory to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 296.

General Zavala to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, September 26, 1855.

THE information which had been required from the proper authorities in the Island of Cuba having been received at this First Secretary of State's office, I now proceed to reply to the note which you did me the honour of addressing to me on the 26th of June last, denouncing with reference to intelligence communicated by the British Consul-General at the Havana, a disembarkation of Bozal negroes which took place in March last in the Guanajay district belonging to the jurisdiction of Mariel, a disembarkation which is erroneously described as having been very numerous, at which several public officers are supposed to have connived; and with regard to which, it is endeavoured to insinuate that the superior authority of the island did not display all the energy and activity which were required for preventing the importation or effecting the seizure of the slaves.

In replying to your aforesaid note, I cannot abstain from expressing to you my surprise at this species of reclamations, founded upon the information given by the British Consul-General at the Havana, whilst nobody better than Mr. Crawford himself, can attest the especial preference with which General Concha attends to any of his denunciations whatever, however unfounded it may appear, relative to disembarkations of Bozal negroes, for the purpose of preventing them by every means in his power; and the details which I am going to state to you, respecting the facts denounced in your note and the proceedings to which they have given rise, will be sufficient, I hope, to convince you of the exactitude of the foregoing observation.

About the middle of March last, the superior authority of the island received confidential intelligence stating that a landing of negroes was about to take place at the Bay of Cabanas. General Concha sent, without loss of time, the proper instructions to the Lieutenant-Governor of Mariel, who was the superior Chief of the threatened district, and also to all other Lieutenant-Governors of the neighbouring districts; and the circumstance of the telegraphic line from the Havana to the chief town of that district being open, greatly facilitated the fulfilment of his orders. All the points on the coast were watched with redoubled vigilance; the greatest activity and vigilance was intimated to all public officers under penalty of being dismissed the service, and owing to these measures the disembarkation was prevented for the time. Some weeks elapsed in this way, until the slave-importers succeeded in their attempt, though not to the extent which Mr. Crawford supposes in his communications to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, as you will hereinafter perceive, but only on a very limited scale, since they could only land a small number of slaves, and even in this they only succeeded in consequence of the material impossibility of absolutely and completely guarding so extensive a coast. It appears that the owners of the cargo of slaves were apprized of the measures adopted by the Captain-General, and they consequently fractioned the cargo into small parties, for the purpose of availing themselves of any favourable spot to effect the landing, and thus rendering the vigilance more difficult. However it may be, the real truth is, that there was no other disembarkation than the aforesaid one, and that, immediately after its having been made known to General Concha, his Excellency gave a special commission to the Mayor and First Alcalde of the Havana, Don Vicente de la Torre Trasierra, authorising him to proceed to the spot where the landing had taken place, and there to investigate by judicial process all the circumstances and real truth of the facts, without stopping before any resistance which the owners of the estates might offer to his examination and search, or to his comparing the tickets of the slaves with the general register-book where they are inscribed; and that, owing to these proceedings and to the summary

measures adopted by the Lieutenant-Governor, the seizure of 85 Bozal negroes was obtained.

The authorities and functionaries whose conduct offered even only the appearance of negligence in the fulfilment of their duties, were at once dismissed from their posts; the examination and search of the interior of the estates showed that no greater number of slaves had been landed than the small one above referred to, and finally, that the Captain-General of the island made every possible exertion to the effect of proving the religiousness and good faith with which he fulfils his duty and the instructions which the Queen's Government has communicated to him on this subject.

I trust that the foregoing statement will be instrumental to convince the Government of Her Britannic Majesty of the incorrectness of the information which had been given to it by the British Consul-General at the Havana, and that it will also serve to demonstrate the loyalty and energy with which the Queen's authorities in the Island of Cuba fulfil their duties.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 297.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 22, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of two despatches* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, &c., stating that he has addressed a letter to the Captain-General of Cuba, informing him that on or about the 5th of August, 510 Bozal negroes were landed at San Cayetano, a place forty or fifty miles to the westward of Ortigosa, and were safely conveyed into the interior, under circumstances manifesting a most determined defiance of the authority and orders of the Captain-General. Mr. Crawford also observes, that the powers delegated by the Spanish Government to the Captain-General of Cuba appear to be quite insufficient for the suppression of the Slave Trade, for that trade continues to be carried on in Cuba with greater boldness than has ever been known hitherto.

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate the substance of these despatches to General Zavala, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that he will learn with deep regret that the description therein given of the unrepressed activity of the slave-trader in Cuba is so entirely at variance with the assurances contained in his letters to Mr. Otway of the 25th and 28th of September, wherein his Excellency described the good results of the energy and vigilance manifested by the Captain-General and the authorities under him, in putting down the importation of African slaves, and stated that the repression of that Traffic had never been so vigorously and effectively pursued as at present.

You will add, that Her Majesty's Government trust that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will see the urgent necessity of no longer hesitating to furnish the governing authorities of Cuba with the means of resisting effectually the open audacity with which their endeavours to check the Slave Trade have always hitherto been successfully opposed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 366 and 367.

No. 298.

M. Comyn to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 25.)

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Spanish Legation in London, October 20, 1855.

THE Government of the Queen, my august Sovereign, has received intelligence that on the 30th day of July ultimo, the Spanish corvette "*Fernando Po*," belonging to Barcelona, Captain Don Tomas Torrens, was detained in the Bay of Accra, on the coast of Africa, by British cruizers, and compelled to return to Sierra Leone, to undergo the adjudication of the Mixed Commission, in consequence of the omission of a document among her papers, showing the origin and destination of fifty empty tubs ("botas") which were on board; and although Her Majesty's Government does not for one moment doubt that the Mixed Commission, in its justice, will hasten to acquit the vessel, reimbursing to her owners the losses and injuries caused to them, I have received orders to make known the circumstances of the case to your Excellency, in order that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may be satisfied of the entire sincerity with which the persons interested in the "*Fernando Po*" have acted, and that the vessel was solely employed in licit trade.

In consequence of a resolution of Her Majesty's Government, dated the 28th June of last year, by which the same advantages were granted to the produce of the south of Africa as to that of Asia, Don José Vidal y Ribas and Don Carlos Torrens, very worthy merchants, of Barcelona, determined to send expeditions to those seas, beginning with the schooner "*Mariana*," which came back in November, with a cargo of palm oil and other produce of the country. The same persons have since established an association, with the object of increasing the number of ships intended for those regions.

The "*Fernando Po*" took on board a large portion of her cargo at Barcelona, complying with all the custom-house forms; and the British Consul in that port authenticated the invoices of the lading, giving at the same time, as being satisfied of the lawful character of the expedition, the certificate, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose to your Excellency.

Among the articles taken on board, and which I consider it unnecessary to detail to your Excellency, mention is made of 650 barrels, mounted and in pieces, without distinguishing the number of the former, because the crew, where possible, is occupied during the voyage in mounting some of those on board, for the first stowage of the vessel; and on this occasion the shippers entered into the proper security towards the Customs, binding themselves to prove, when necessary, the landing of the said barrels in Africa, and their employment in shipping palm oil. The documents were presented at the custom-house, and a closed cover, containing the papers, were, according to the established rules, delivered by the custom-house to the captain of the "*Fernando Po*;" and so the vessel entered on her voyage, on the 18th June, towards the coast of Africa, touching at Gibraltar, where she completed her cargo with goods suited to the market where she was going, the Governor issuing the certificate accordingly. All these circumstances, referred to the cruizers by the captain, prove to evidence the perfect legality with which the shippers proceeded, and ought to have saved the ship from any detention: but this was not the case, arising, no doubt, from a misunderstanding.

On the 2nd of August, three days subsequently, the "*Fernando Po*," lying at anchor in the Bay of Accra, and in sight of the English fort of St. James, and of the Dutch fort of Crèveccœur, was boarded by three boats of the British cruizers "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," under the command of officers, who asked for the documents of the cargo. The captain, who was then on shore, having assented, gave them the papers referring to the ship, and to the goods shipped at Gibraltar, adding that he had also a closed cover, received from the Custom-house of Barcelona, which cover he did not consider himself authorized to open. The English officers not

agreeing to this, the captain went back to the shore with them, and opened the cover, in the presence of the Governor of the fort, and of other witnesses. The documents which were contained in it being examined, it appears that the English Commander found that the paper was wanting containing the obligation that the empty barrels should be used to receive palm oil, the absence of which could not be foreseen by the captain nor the shippers, who had given the regular security before the Custom-house. All the observations both of the captain and the consignee against the detention of the ship being unavailable, the former was obliged to give way, under protest, in presence of the superior force held out to him, and to undertake his return voyage of 400 leagues to Sierra Leone, to be there tried by the Mixed Commission.

This brief relation of what occurred with the "*Fernando Po*" will, in my opinion, satisfy the Government of Her Britannic Majesty of the lawful destination of the ship, as well as the entire good faith with which the interested parties undertook their speculation of licit trade, awaiting the verdict of the Court of Sierra Leone, which cannot but be favourable. If there was an involuntary omission on the part of the Custom-house, it does not appear that the owners of the vessel should suffer for it; and at all events, the lawful proceeding of the ship being known, there can be no motive nor pretext for detaining her. Neither the build of the "*Fernando Po*," nor her internal arrangements, nor the number of the crew, which was not above ten men, could have given rise to the slightest suspicion that she was intended for illicit trade. Even the circumstance of her being anchored in sight of the British fort, and in the middle of the cruizers, takes away every mark of guilt.

It being solely the object of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty should have an accurate knowledge of the preceding circumstances of this case, it is desirous of placing the above facts before the Judge in Sierra Leone, without prejudging in the slightest degree the question before the Court. I may be pardoned for recalling to your Excellency the Articles of the existing Treaty of 1835, which relate to the present case, and which, without doubt, the Mixed Tribunal will not lose sight of in pronouncing, as it is to be expected, from the equity of the persons who compose it, for the liberation of the ship, and the indemnification for losses and damages.

I take, &c.

(Signed) JUAN S. COMYN.

Inclosure in No. 298.

Certificate.

British Consulate in Catalonia.

I HEREBY certify, at the request of Don José Vidal y Ribas, merchant, of this city, that, from the well-known respectability of the firm in Barcelona, and likewise from the fact of a previous voyage having been undertaken by the same party to the coast of Guinea, in March 1854, with similar object of engaging alone in legitimate trade, I have reason to believe that the present voyage of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," Tomas Torrens master, now bound for Fernando Po, may be looked upon as a *bond fide* and legitimate trading expedition.

Given under my hand and official seal, at the British Consulate, Barcelona, this 15th day of June, 1855.

(Signed)

JAMES BAKER, *Consul.*

No. 299.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing a list of the Chinese labourers imported at that place since 1847, and containing some observations as to the treatment of those labourers by the Cuban planters.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 300.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing a statement of the number of Yucatan Indians that have been imported into Havana since the beginning of 1855.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 301.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. Comyn.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which, by the direction of your Government, you addressed to me on the 20th instant, respecting the detention of the Spanish vessel "*Fernando Po*," by the British cruisers "*Dolphin*" and "*Minx*," in the roadstead of Accra, in August last, on suspicion of being engaged in a Slave Trade expedition; but which vessel, you state, was intended for the strictly licit trade only, and ought to be acquitted by the Mixed British and Spanish Commission at Sierra Leone, to which Court she has been sent for adjudication.

I have the honour to inform you that I have received an account of the preliminary proceedings in this case from Her Majesty's Judge *ad interim* in the Mixed Court at Sierra Leone, by which it appears that the Spanish Judge objected to the admission into Court of the case of the "*Fernando Po*," upon which occasion the arguments urged in your letter on behalf of the owners of the Spanish vessel were fully brought before the Court.

That objection was, however, overruled, and Her Majesty's Government have no doubt that all the facts and circumstances connected with the voyage of the "*Fernando Po*" will be taken into consideration, and that the Mixed Commission Court at Sierra Leone will come to a just and impartial decision thereupon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 365.

† No. 368.

No. 302.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 7.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, October 28, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship translation of a note from Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the Yucatan Indians who go to Cuba.

Inclosure in No. 302.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 25, 1855.

UNDER date of the 24th September last, I received from Mr. Otway, at that time Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, a note inclosing copy of a despatch from the British Representative in Mexico to Lord Clarendon. In this despatch, indeed, the blackest picture is made of the sufferings of the Yucatan Indians who proceed to Cuba; but it remains to be ascertained whether false or exaggerated reports, given with malignant intention, and perhaps listened to with a precipitation rendered excusable by the philanthropic zeal which gave rise to it, have contributed to the over-blackening of the picture. However it may be, and although Her Majesty's Government ventures to believe at once, that there is great exaggeration in the despatch from the British Chargé d'Affaires in Mexico, although written undoubtedly with good faith and better zeal, yet it will endeavour to obtain the most accurate information upon this subject, for which purpose a copy of Mr. Otway's note, and of its inclosure, has already been transmitted to the Colonial Office.

The information which I am expecting from the aforesaid office will enable me to give to your Lordship a more detailed reply. Meanwhile I can at once assure your Lordship that the Government of Her Majesty the Queen, my Sovereign, which considers itself second to none in the point of humanity, neither will consent, nor can at any time have consented, to the ill-treatment of the Yucatan Indians in Cuba, and that it endeavours to prevent, by every means in its power, their forcible transportation to the island, supposing this to be the case; although it is by no means bound to reject the assistance of the Indians in question, whenever they may come, of their own free will and without any coercion whatever, to the Spanish colonies, to work there for a sum freely agreed upon by them.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 303.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 15.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, November 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, translation of a note I have received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Her Catholic Majesty, in answer to a communication I made by your Lordship's order, announcing the introduction lately of large bodies of Bozal negroes into Cuba, and that the Traffic was carried on at this moment with more audacity than ever.

Inclosure in No. 303.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 2, 1855.

IN reply to your Lordship's note of the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to state that, in my notes of the 25th and the 26th of September, I gave to your Lordship most correct information as to the good results which the great vigilance and energy of the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba is producing, and which are remarkably at variance with the reports which your Lordship now transmits to me of a recent importation of slaves. Your Lordship, therefore, will not be surprised at my entertaining some doubts as to the correctness of this latter information, and at my referring the matter to the Colonial Office, to which I have sent a translation of your Lordship's note, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the aforesaid reports are to be admitted as correct ones, or rejected as exaggerated or devoid of foundation. I consequently wait to give your Lordship a full reply on the subject until I have received the required information; although I can and am bound at once to assure your Lordship that the Government of Her Majesty the Queen my Sovereign, prompted by the most philanthropic feelings, is taking, and will continue to take, energetic measures for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 304.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 22.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 17, 1855.

IN conformity with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd ultimo, respecting the landing of 510 Bozal negroes at San Cayetano, in the Island of Cuba, I addressed a note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Her Catholic Majesty, calling his Excellency's immediate attention to the circumstances of the case.

I have received from his Excellency, in reply, the note translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose, by which your Lordship will see that the Direction of the Colonies have not received any intelligence respecting the circumstances above referred to, but that orders have been sent to the Captain-General of Cuba to furnish the Government of Her Catholic Majesty with a report upon the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 304.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 15, 1855.

AS I had already the honour of announcing to your Lordship, I transmitted, by the Queen's command, and under date of the 2nd instant, to the Colonial Office, requesting its information upon the subject in question, your Lordship's note relative to a recent importation into the Island of Cuba of 510 Bozal negroes, who were landed at the port of San Cayetano.

The Colonial Office has replied that no information whatsoever exists in that office upon the subject; and that, under date of the 6th instant, the Royal Order relative to the same, and your Lordship's aforesaid note,

CLASS B.

3 A

have been transcribed to the Governor and Captain-General of the aforesaid Island, directing this functionary to ascertain and report what truth there may be in this denunciation.

I hasten to communicate the above to your Lordship, and avail, &c.
(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 305.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1855.

I HAVE to inform your Lordship that I transmitted to Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, for his information, and for any observations that he might have to make thereupon, a copy of Mr. Otway's despatch of the 24th of July last, inclosing a copy of a note from General Zavala, calling in question the accuracy of the statement contained in Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 24th of November, 1854, which reported the disembarkation at the Ensenada de Cochinos and at Puntas Nuevas of three cargoes of Africans, amounting in all to about 1,800.

I now inclose, for your Lordship's information, and for such use as you may consider it expedient to make thereof, a copy of Mr. Crawford's reply upon this matter.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 306.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 26, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, and for communication to the Spanish Government, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Crawford, &c., stating that he has informed the Captain-General of an expected landing of negroes at Punta de Cartas, which information has been confirmed by a report which the Captain-General received from the Brigadier Don Joaquim Morales de Rada, the officer employed by his Excellency for the suppression of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 307.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 18, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of two despatches‡ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing copies of his correspondence with the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting alleged disembarkations of slaves on the south coast of that island.

In communicating the substance of these despatches to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, your Lordship will state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely concur in the observations which Mr. Crawford has made in the inclosed despatch of the 31st ultimo, upon the complaint brought forward by General Concha, in his letter of the 30th of October, as to the facility with which Mr. Crawford gives credence to accusations injurious to the honour and tried reputation of the Spanish authorities of Cuba.

* No. 379.

† No. 380.

‡ Nos. 382 and 388.

For as long as it is impossible, as it notoriously is, for a single suspicious white man to enter Cuba, without being detected by the Lieutenant-Governors or their subordinates, it is but fair that those authorities should be made answerable for the fact that, in violation of the laws and Treaties of Spain, so many hundreds of negroes are introduced into the island every month, with the greatest facility, and are seldom brought to light or captured.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 308.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 20, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of two despatches* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, &c., reporting that, at the end of October, 516 Africans were landed at San Lazaro del Granadillo, from on board a brigantine called the "*Midas*."

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate the facts of this landing to General Zavala, with reference to the assertions contained in his letters to Mr. Otway of the 25th and 28th of September, and of the 9th of October, stating that the repression of the Slave Trade had never been so vigorously and effectively pursued in Cuba as at present.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 309.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the unchecked importation of slaves into Cuba, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch† from Mr. Crawford, &c., stating that notwithstanding the attempt of the Spanish Government to call in question the correctness of his information, in some cases in which he has made communications respecting the introduction of slaves and the connivance of the Spanish authorities, yet sufficient evidence of the trustworthiness of his reports is to be found in the following facts—namely, that the numbers of slaves employed upon the estates in Cuba have been kept up; that many new sugar plantations have been formed and supplied with African labourers; and that, upon the whole, the boasted activity and vigilance of General Concha have failed remarkably in producing any beneficial effect towards the suppression of Slave Trade.

Your Lordship will take an opportunity of conveying these remarks of Mr. Crawford to the knowledge of the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 310.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 5, 1856.

WITH reference to the case of the Spanish barque "*Fernando Po*," which was detained at Accra in August last by Her Majesty's ships "*Minx*" and "*Dolphin*," and was taken to Sierra Leone for adjudication

* Nos. 390 and 392.

† No. 391.

before the Mixed British and Spanish Commission Court in that Colony, I transmit herewith a copy of the judgment* pronounced by that Court on the 30th of October, stating that there was ground for the detention of the "*Fernando Po*," though not for her condemnation, and deciding that she should be restored to her owner without costs or damages consequent upon her seizure and detention.

No. 311.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 14.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 4, 1856.

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 20th ultimo, I communicated to General Zavala the report that your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba of the landing, at the end of October last, of 516 Africans at San Lazaro del Granadillo from on board a brigantine called the "*Midas*."

I have received from his Excellency, in acknowledgment, the note a translation of which I have the honour to inclose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 311.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, January 2, 1856.

IN reply to your Excellency's note dated the 27th of December last, I have the honour to state to your Excellency that the Colonial Office has been requested to furnish this First Secretary of State's Office with any information it may possess on the subject mentioned in the aforesaid note, of the landing, in the Island of Cuba, of 516 Africans, which is supposed to have been made at San Lazaro del Granadillo from on board a brig called "*Midas*."

When I receive the required information, I shall give your Excellency a definitive answer on the subject.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 312.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 16.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 9, 1856.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Otway of the 4th of July last,† I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, translation of a note which I have received from General Zavala, stating that every care and precaution will be adopted by the Captain-General of Cuba to ascertain the number and ameliorate the fate of the emancipados in that island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

* Class A. Inclosure in No. 7.

† No. 284.

Inclosure in No. 312.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, January 4, 1856.

SO soon as I received Mr. Otway's note dated the 10th July of last year, I wrote to the Colonial Office, desiring to be furnished with every possible information upon the subject to which it refers: and having at last received this information, I hasten to reply to the aforesaid communication, according to the official letter from the Captain-General of Cuba which has been transcribed to me by the Colonial Office.

Although it is a matter of difficulty to watch over the fate of upwards of 14,000 negroes who have been emancipated since 1825, and it is possible, therefore, that some abuses, such as those which are denounced in the aforesaid note, may have been committed; nevertheless, the accusations against the authorities of the Island of Cuba which are involved in the note in question cannot be admitted.

The authorities of Cuba have always watched over the fate of the emancipados, and the present Captain-General devotes his most special care to this matter.

With the system which he has established it will become possible, and even easy, to ascertain the true number of the emancipados who are still living; all, or the greatest part, of the abuses which may have taken place, owing to different circumstances, will be found out and remedied: and proper care will be taken that they be not repeated in future.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 313.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 24.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 18, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship translation of a note which I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, as well as an answer which the tenour of the communication induced me to make.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 313.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, January 16, 1856.

HER Majesty the Queen, my august Sovereign, being desirous of contributing in an efficient and permanent manner to the progress of the Catholic religion, and to the diffusion of civilization which this religion carries along with it, in the Islands of the Gulf of Guinea, has determined to establish in the ex-Convent of San Pascual at Aranjuez, a College, especially destined for the education of children born in the aforesaid islands.

At the same time, and in order to begin at once carrying this pious work into execution, Her Majesty has been pleased to commission the clergyman, Don Miguel Martinez y Sanz, President of the Mission which is about to start for Fernando Po, to send to Spain, in the same ship which is to convey the mission to the aforesaid Island, from 36 to 40 negro lads, accompanied by the clergyman Don Emeterio Soria, attached to the parish of Santa Cruz, in this capital.

Consequently, Her Majesty's Government wishes and confidently expects that the Government of the nation of which your Excellency is so worthy a Representative, will have the goodness to issue the proper orders to the British cruisers, to the effect that in case they should fall in with the schooner "*Leonor*" *alias* "*Desengaño*," belonging to Don Pablo Alzara, a citizen of Valencia, which is the vessel appointed to convey to Spain the aforesaid neophytes, they may abstain from opposing any impediment whatever to her voyage, which they might otherwise possibly do, mistaking her for one of those vessels which are engaged in the Slave Trade.

On having the honour of communicating the above to your Excellency, I avail, &c.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 313.

Lord Howden to General Zavala.

Sir,

Madrid, January 18, 1856.

I HAVE received your Excellency's esteemed note of the 16th instant, announcing a pious mission to the Island of Fernando Po, and requesting that the cruisers of Her Britannic Majesty may be instructed not to interfere with the vessels carrying the young negroes intended to be educated in Spain.

Although I cannot conceive in what way danger can be apprehended for vessels sailing (as the vessels of which your Excellency speaks doubtlessly will), with papers in order and under circumstances wholly different from those of vessels engaged in the Slave Trade, I shall not lose a moment in transmitting your Excellency's communication to my Government, feeling well convinced that, so far from wishing to obstruct, they will be earnestly desirous for the success of any act or association whose aim is the civilization of Africa; and the more so as neither they nor I can doubt that one of the first objects of this religious mission under the immediate protection of Her Catholic Majesty's Government must be to discourage by every means in its power the prosecution of the Trade in Slaves, which, precisely on the scene of the future labours of these venerable individuals, has so long darkened there the brilliancy of the Spanish flag.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 314.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th of January, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that the Spanish Government wish to bring from Fernando Po to Spain 30 or 40 African lads, who are intended to be educated in a seminary at Aranjuez, and requesting that the commanders of Her Majesty's cruisers on the West African Station may be instructed not to obstruct the voyage of the vessel in which these negroes are to be conveyed to Spain.

I transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter which has been addressed by my direction to the Admiralty, requesting that instructions may be sent to the Commander-in-chief on the West African Station with regard to the above-mentioned application from the Spanish Government.

In communicating to General Zavala the substance of the inclosed

letter, you will point out to his Excellency that if, before these instructions reach the Commander-in-chief, a British cruizer should fall in with the vessel conveying the negroes in question to Spain, it will be scarcely possible for her Commander to distinguish between such a conveyance of negroes and an ordinary slave-trading operation.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 314.

Lord Wodehouse to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1856.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, stating that the Spanish Government wish to bring from Fernando Po to Spain, on board the schooner "Leonor," *alias* "Desengaño," 30 or 40 African lads, who are intended to be educated in a seminary at Aranjuez; and I am to request that you will move the Lords of the Admiralty to transmit copies of Lord Howden's despatch, and of its inclosures, to the Commander-in-chief on the West African Station, with instructions to report his opinion thereupon, and also in order that he may act in the manner that he may think best under the circumstances of the case, if he, or any of the cruizers under his command, should meet with a vessel corresponding in all particulars with the statement contained in the inclosed letter from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to Lord Howden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) WODEHOUSE.

No. 315.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 31.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 22, 1856.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th ultimo, I addressed a note to General Zavala, communicating to his Excellency Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatch of 31st October last, and its inclosures, respecting alleged disembarkations of slaves on the south-east coast of the Havana.

His Excellency has sent me the communication in acknowledgment, translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 315.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, January 19, 1856.

I HEREWITH return to your Excellency the papers which your Excellency transmitted to me in your courteous note of the 28th of December last, of which, as well as of the aforesaid papers, I have sent a copy to the Colonial Office, requesting the proper information upon the subject mentioned therein, in order to be enabled to give to your Excellency a definitive answer thereupon. In the meantime I cannot abstain from stating that Mr. Crawford's argument, which your Excellency is pleased to repeat, has no force; because if the Whites should take, in

order to escape being detected, the same precautions which will probably be taken with regard to the negroes, they would undoubtedly escape detection. On the other hand, Bozal negroes cannot be compared with free persons who arrive at the island; they can only be assimilated to illegal merchandize, or any other unlawful articles which are imported by contraband trade; and your Excellency is well aware of the large quantities of contraband goods which are imported into Spain and her Colonies, in spite of the zeal with which the contraband trade is persecuted, and of the great interest which the Government of Her Majesty the Queen, my Sovereign, has in preventing it.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 316.

M. Comyn to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 6.)

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Spanish Legation, February 2, 1856.

THE Rev. Don Miguel Martinez Sanz, President of the Spanish Catholic Mission established in Fernando Po, who is now in Madrid, has been directed by Her Majesty the Queen, my august Sovereign, on his return to that island on board the Spanish schooner "Leonor" *alias* "Desengaño," to embark on that vessel 30 or 40 youths and grown persons, natives of the island, who are to be conveyed to Spain, in order to be educated in a college which the piety of my august Sovereign has caused to be founded in her Royal domain of Aranjuez, especially intended for the education of the natives of the Gulf of Guinea.

Her Majesty has, at the same time, arranged that these neophytes should be under the care and direction of the Rev. Don Emeterio de Soria, of Madrid, who is nominated for this purpose.

Her Majesty's Government has commanded me to make known to your Excellency this determination, and in having the honour to fulfil that duty, I have also the honour to request the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to be pleased, on its part, to adopt measures such as it may consider proper, to the effect that this shipment, whose object is to carry religion and civilization into those barbarous countries, may not be confounded by the British cruisers employed in those waters, with those which are engaged in the criminal Traffic in Slaves.

In this view Her Britannic Majesty's Government will, perhaps, consider it prudent, in addition to the instructions which it may think proper to be given to the British Consuls in the ports where the vessel may put in, that the Governor of Sierra Leone should furnish to the Captain of the schooner "Leonor" a document which may protect him against all search and inquiry.

In soliciting this service from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I do not for one moment doubt that it will gladly hasten to take the most efficacious steps for avoiding any obstacle being opposed on its part to the benevolent intentions of my august Sovereign.

I take, &c.
(Signed) JUAN S. COMYN.

No. 317.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 6, 1856.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 20th of December last, I inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch* from

* No. 398.

Mr. Crawford, &c., reporting the result of the investigation instituted by the Captain-General of Cuba, with regard to the landing of a cargo of Bozal negroes at Granadillo, in the month of October last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 318.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. Comyn.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 9, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, requesting that the necessary instructions may be given by Her Majesty's Government to prevent any interference on the part of British cruizers with the Spanish vessel "Leonor," *alias* "Desengaño," which has been engaged by Her Catholic Majesty's Government to bring from Fernando Po to Spain, 30 or 40 negro lads who are intended to be educated in a seminary at Aranjuez.

And, in reply, I beg leave to acquaint you that I have already received, through Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, a similar application from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and that instructions thereupon have been sent to Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po, and to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the West African Station.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 319.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 15.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 9, 1856.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, I have the honour herewith to inclose translation of the answer which I have received from General Zavala to my communication to his Excellency, informing him of the substance of the instructions sent by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the Commander-in-chief of the West African Station, with regard to the immunity of the vessel conveying negroes from Fernando Po and Annabon for education at Aranjuez.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 319.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, February 7, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which your Excellency has been pleased to address to me on the 5th instant, informing me that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty has issued the proper instructions to the Commander-in-chief on the West African Station, to the effect that the Spanish schooner "Leonor," which is to convey to the peninsula the negro neophytes proceeding from the Island of Fernando Po, destined to receive a Christian education in the Convent of San Pascual at Aranjuez, may meet with no impediment whatever in her voyage, by her being mistaken for one of the vessels engaged in the reprobated Traffic in Slaves.

CLASS B.

3 B

I request your Excellency will have the goodness to convey to your Government the thanks of that of Her Catholic Majesty, for the efficiency with which it has contributed to the accomplishment of so pious a project and so useful to the unfortunate creatures in whose behalf it has been planned.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 320.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 14.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, February 23, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a note which I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in answer to one (copy of which I also transmit) founded on your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant, announcing the capture of 31 Bozal Africans in Granadillo in the Island of Cuba.

Inclosure 1 in No. 320.

Lord Howden to General Zavala.

Sir,

Madrid, February 12, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency of a fact which will, doubtlessly, give great satisfaction to Her Catholic Majesty's Government, namely, that a Commissioner being sent by the Captain-General of Cuba to investigate the affair of the landing of a cargo of Bozal negroes at a place called Granadillo, the result has been the capture of 31 of them, and the suspension of all the principal authorities of the place, who are thus subjected to a criminal prosecution before the Royal Audiencia. This act of vigour, on the part of the Governor-General, deserves all the praise that it has received in England, and the still more grateful approbation which will be, most indubitably, given to his Excellency by the Spanish Government.

In justice to Mr. Crawford, who has been so frequently the subject of blame in the notes which I have had the honour, on various occasions, to receive from your Excellency, I must state that it was through the English Consul-General that the Commissioner, Colonel Llorente, obtained the clue to the discoveries he was enabled to make, without which that officer would, most probably, have returned to Havana without any information at all, and would necessarily (and with perfect good faith, as far as he himself was concerned) have reported that the disembarkation was an illusion of Mr. Crawford, or an invention of his correspondents, and that the authorities of the place had been calumniously accused.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 320.

General Zavala to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Madrid, February 20, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency of the true satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government has perused the note of the 12th instant, wherewith your Excellency is pleased to announce to me the seizure of 31 Bozal negroes, which took place at Granadillo (Island of

Cuba), as well as the suspension and criminal prosecution of the authorities of that place, in consequence of the measures adopted for that purpose by the Governor and Captain-General of the island, whose Commissioner, Colonel Llorente, was assisted in his discoveries by the revelation of the British Consul, Mr. Crawford.

I can even say that the case in question has been the cause of a double satisfaction, since whilst it has procured a very great one, as your Lordship states, to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, that of the Queen, my Sovereign, cannot but see with pleasure that our old and faithful ally does justice to the zeal, vigour, and loyalty with which Treaties are fulfilled. Your Excellency is well aware that the exaggeration of certain humanitarian ideas has prompted some respectable statesmen in England to set forth the most serious accusations and complaints against the Spanish Government, by supposing that now, in the middle of the nineteenth century, it protects, although by indirect and secret means, the Slave Trade, and authorises the disembarkation of slaves in its trans-Atlantic possessions with the same eagerness as when, in former times, it granted, under the name of "asiento," the privilege of the Traffic in Slaves to certain foreign companies which undertook to provide for that part of American colonization. Occurrences like the above-mentioned one at Granadillo would convince your Excellency, even if your Excellency did not already entertain this conviction, that the aforesaid accusations are utterly unfounded; since between the wishes of philanthropists and our conduct in the matter in question, there is no other difference than the one which must necessarily exist between the generous and free aspirations of individual feeling, and the sacred duties of those who are bound to conciliate this same feeling with the good administration of nations by the difficult path of practice, without destroying old standing and respectable interests.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JUAN DE ZAVALA.

No. 321.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 14, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of a despatch* and its inclosure, from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, containing a report upon the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba during the year 1855.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 322.

M. Gonzalez to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Legacion de España, 19 de Marzo, 1856.

CON arreglo á las estipulaciones del Tratado de 28 de Junio de 1835, y en virtud del Artículo I del Reglamento que forma parte integrante del mismo, el Gobierno de la Reina, mi augusta Soberana, ha tenido á bien nombrar á Don Gumersindo Ogea, Vice-Cónsul de España en Sierra Leone, Arbitro del Tribunal Mixto establecido in aquella Colonia.

Al tener la honra de participar á vuestra Excelencia dicho nombramiento, en cumplimiento de las órdenes que he recibido de mi Gobierno, me cabe la de reiterar, &c.

(Firmado)

ANTO. GONZALEZ.

* Class A, No. 45.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Spanish Legation, May 19, 1856.

IN accordance with the stipulations of the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835, and in conformity with the 1st Article of the Regulations annexed to the said Treaty, the Government of the Queen my August Sovereign has been pleased to appoint Don Gumersindo Ogea, the Spanish Vice-Consul in Sierra Leone, to be Arbitrator in the Mixed Tribunal established in that Colony.

In communicating this appointment to your Excellency in accordance with the orders which I have received from my Government, I have, &c.

(Signed)

ANTO. GONZALEZ.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana*.

No. 323.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 5.)

(Extract.)

Havana, February 27, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 15th ultimo,* in which your Lordship has been pleased to signify your high approval of my opposition to the arrangement of the Messrs. Goicouria, of this place, with the Government of Mexico, for the purchase of the penal services of the prisoners who have been made in the war which is being carried on in Yucatan with the Indians of that province.

I have used my best endeavours with his Excellency General Concha to induce him to oppose the introduction of such colonists, and I have found every disposition on his part to investigate the circumstances under which the Indians continue to be brought from Yucatan by Goicouria and Co., but they have hitherto succeeded in satisfying the authorities here that the said colonists have been contracted willingly, and were not prisoners of war, but free to enter into arrangements of their own accord.

I am, nevertheless, exceedingly doubtful upon the subject, and information respecting those brought by the schooner "Maria Jacinto," and brigantine "Anita," as well as with regard to those expected by the Mexican brig "Yucateco," from Rio Lagartos, is quite at variance with what has been made to appear after the interrogation of those unfortunate people, upon the arrival of the two first-named vessels.

No. 324.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 5.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 1, 1855.

IN obedience to the instruction which I have had the honour of receiving from your Lordship in your despatch dated the 29th of January,† I have expressed to General Concha the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learned the adoption of the measure which I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my despatch of the 21st of December last, directing that the owners of all the slaves in the island are to provide their slaves with pass-tickets, which are to be issued and registered by the proper authorities, and to be renewed half-yearly; and that Her Majesty's Government trust that that measure will be followed by others calculated to carry fully into effect the provisions of the Royal Decrees of March 22, 1854.

His Excellency received this expression of Her Majesty's Government with evident satisfaction, and authorised me to repeat to your Lordship his unalterable determination to put an end to the Slave Trade by every means in his power.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 537.

† Ibid., No. 541.

No. 325.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 5.)

(Extract.)

Havana, March 7, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Lordship that the Mexican brig "Yucateco" arrived here on the 28th ultimo from Rio de Lagartos, bringing 87 colonists, under the arrangement of Messrs. Goicouria with the Mexican Government, and, according to what I stated to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 22nd ultimo,* I applied to the Captain-General, requesting that other interpreters of the Maya idiom should be employed to interrogate those new arrivals, and I submitted the names of three persons for that purpose, who had been recommended to me for such service, suggesting that two of the said interpreters should be present, so as to make sure of a faithful performance of their duties.

I have the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship that General Concha has been pleased to accede to my solicitation, and has appointed an Agent of the Government, with the necessary interpreters, to attend to this most interesting matter, the result of which I shall not fail to report to your Lordship.

No. 326.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 5.)

(Extract.)

Havana, March 10, 1855.

THE despatch and inclosure which I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship I received this morning by the mail from Mexico, it having been sent to me by Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister, under flying seal.

In my despatch of the 7th instant I reported to your Lordship that General Concha had acceded to my request for the interrogation of the Indians who arrived by the Mexican brig "Yucateco" by interpreters suggested by me, but that measure has not produced the good result which I hoped for.

The interpreters are restricted to a certain formula of interrogatories, and no cross-questioning allowed.

Mr. Sansores, the interpreter who was called in upon the occasion, informs me that the unfortunate Indians by the "Yucateco" were, he has no doubt, prisoners of war, and were forced to come as colonists under intimidation; that he (Mr. Sansores) is a native of Yucatan, is, or was, the owner of lands there, and is thoroughly conversant with the nature, character, and innate love of their native haunts, and he assures me that even a very large sum of money (he speaks, of course, as to what to them would be a large amount) would not induce the Indians to emigrate: he therefore is of opinion that not one of them can be found who would willingly contract to serve for wages any person or persons under any circumstances which would oblige the Indian to embark, and perform his contract in a foreign country.

I have this evening had an interview with his Excellency the Captain-General, and I have intimated to him the substance of the new arrangement which, Mr. Doyle has been informed, the Agent of Goicouria and Zangronis has effected with the Mexican Government for the wild Indians on the northern frontier, and which, he believes, includes the prisoners from all the jails in Mexico.

His Excellency could not but express his surprise, but I was not prepared to state positively the last part of this extraordinary bargain, which relates to the prisoners in Mexico of all descriptions. I must,

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 554.

therefore, wait for further information from Mr. Doyle before I can, in a more official manner, represent this matter to General Concha; but in the mean time I cannot refrain from expressing my opinion to your Lordship that, such is the want of labouring hands here in Cuba, every chance will be afforded to the parties who are interested in these contracts for successfully introducing their victims, and that, therefore, unless Mr. Doyle can succeed in getting them annulled by the orders of the Mexican Government, the worst consequences of such barbarity will be realised, and the enslavement of much of the Mexican population be inevitable.

It is matter for the serious consideration of Her Majesty's Government, as well as of all civilized nations, at once to interfere and put a stop to this newly-invented trade in human flesh, which otherwise will devastate Yucatan and all the northern provinces of Mexico.

No. 327.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 15, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, stating that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed him that the authorities of Cuba have seized, and declared to be free, 257 negroes, who were landed in or near the Isle of Pines, and 273 who were found in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 328.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 16, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch to you of the 27th September, 1854,† respecting the prejudicial effect which the Spanish Decrees of March 22, 1854, are likely to have upon the interests of the Yucatan immigrants into Cuba, I now transmit to you a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to him on the 12th ultimo by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating the reasons why the Spanish Government cannot consent to the request which was addressed to them by Her Majesty's Government through Lord Howden, that certain modifications should be introduced into the Royal Decrees in question.

And I have to observe to you that this decision of the Spanish Government will render increased vigilance necessary on the part of British functionaries in Cuba respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into that island.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 329.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 17, 1855.

I HAVE to inform you that I transmitted copies of your despatches of December 30, 1854, and of February 1, 1855,§ to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, with instructions to bring to the notice of the

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 450.

† Ibid., No. 504.

‡ No. 274.

§ Class B, presented 1855, Nos. 544 and 550.

Spanish Government the statements contained therein as to the condition of the Cuban emancipados. And I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Lord Howden, inclosing a note addressed to him on the 29th ultimo by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which his Excellency promises that the condition of the emancipados shall be inquired into.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 330.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, April 18, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter communicating particulars respecting the landing of a cargo of slaves at St. Jago de Cuba in December last, from a steamer under Spanish colours, called the "*Tayaba*."

Inclosure in No. 330.

Mr. ——— to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

April 3, 1855.

AS one of the witnesses who gave evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of the Slave Trade Treaties, and believing that Her Majesty's Government would like to be informed of any well-authenticated instances of a direct violation of those Treaties, I venture to bring under your Lordship's notice the following case :

The ship "*Isabel*," of Liverpool, John E. Lapworth, commander, foundered at sea on the 20th of December last. The captain and his crew were saved in their own long-boat and gig, and were taken in tow by the slave-steamer "*Tayaba*," the name painted on the outer side of the paddle-boxes, under Spanish colours, about thirty-five miles south of St. Jago de Cuba. The captain of the steamer hailed them in English, and said that he could not receive them on board, as he had a cargo of slaves, fearing, if he did so, that the authorities might put the vessel in quarantine. He supplied the boat's crew with provisions, and on the same day landed them at Manzinillo, in Cuba. He then proceeded to his port of destination.

After remaining six days at Manzinillo, the captain proceeded to St. Jago de Cuba, and from thence he went in the same steamer, the "*Tayaba*," to Batamanno.

It may, I think, be inferred that the slaves, crowded on the deck of the steamer, were landed at St. Jago de Cuba; and the apprehension of being placed in quarantine implies that the authorities regarded the steamer loaded with slaves as a legitimate trader.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

No. 331.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 27, 1855.

SOME ten days ago the British Vice-Consul at Cardenas reported that it was rumoured there that a landing of Bozal negroes had been effected at Sierra Morena, and that parties had been sent off by land and

sea, by orders from the Lieutenant-Governor, to capture the negroes, and if possible, intercept the slaver.

Subsequently Mr. Bell informed me that it was a false alarm, and his intelligence has been confirmed by the Captain-General; but the Vice-Consul stating that he had reason to believe the intelligence had only been anticipated, for that, in reality, a slaver is expected to land her cargo at Sierra Morena or Punta de Tejas, I have communicated the circumstance to Captain Thompson, of Her Majesty's ship "Vestal," who has ordered a cruizer to be watchful of that part of the coast.

His Excellency the Captain-General has received intelligence of a landing which is said to have taken place at the Ensenada de los Cochinos, respecting which he informs me that he has dictated the most stringent persecution of all parties concerned, but as yet he has not received the result.

I have not heard of any expeditions to the slave-coast of Africa, or to the Mozambique Channel, for some time past; and I have reason to believe that General Concha has been using his best endeavours to create an alteration of the public opinion against the Slave Trade, which, should it become general, will do much towards its discontinuance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 332.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 3.)

(Extract.)

Havana, March 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 21st ultimo,* transmitting for my information a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the representations of Her Majesty's Government upon the subject of the transportation of Yucatan Indians to Cuba.

The Spanish Government, it would seem by their answer, and the Captain-General of Cuba for his part, provided the general dispositions of the 22nd of March, 1854, are complied with, do not consider themselves called upon to interfere in any way to put a stop to the horrors which are consequent on the arrangements entered into by the Government of Mexico with Messrs. Goicouria, Brothers, and Messrs. Zangronis, Brothers, of this place. Their anxiety to obtain the introduction of labourers is superior to all the considerations of humanity, and we need hope for no cooperation on their part, to counteract the frauds which are so disgracefully practised upon the unfortunate natives of Yucatan.

I have not heard of any further introductions of Indians from Yucatan, nor from any other part of Mexico.

No. 333.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 31, 1855.

IN obedience to the instruction conveyed in your Lordship's despatch dated the 24th ultimo,* the receipt of which I have the honour now to acknowledge, I addressed a note to his Excellency the Captain-General, a copy of which I have the honour of laying before your Lordship, making the circumstances referred to in your Lordship's despatch known to his Excellency, and stating that Her Majesty's Government feel assured that he will deplore, as much as they do, such melancholy facts with regard to the continuance of the Slave Trade to so great an extent, and that he will

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 547.

† Ibid., No. 548.

see in them a motive for increased vigilance, on the part of the subordinate authorities of Cuba, to carry out his intentions, which are those of his Government, and to prevent such a flagrant violation of the Treaty engagements subsisting between the two countries.

At the same time I stated to his Excellency that it would be my pleasing duty to report to Her Majesty's Government my implicit confidence in the measures which he has adopted, since his return to the Government here, for the extirpation of the Slave Trade, as well as of his Excellency's uncompromising determination to enforce the observance of the existing Treaties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 333.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

Havana, March 26, 1855.

I HAVE received a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs dated the 24th ultimo, upon the subject of the Slave Trade, and the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, commenting upon the extent of that detestable Traffic during the past year of 1854, observes that, "taking the lowest calculation, it appears that the number of slaves imported, amounted to 7,673, to which the usual addition of one-third should be made for unreported landings, and accordingly the total estimate for the past year will be 10,230;" and his Lordship goes on to state, that "this number, though not so large as the estimate of slaves imported into Cuba in 1853, is larger than the number of those imported in any one of the eleven years immediately preceding the year 1853, and it exceeds the average of importations during the last fifteen years by 4,034."

I am therefore instructed to make these circumstances known to your Excellency, and to state that Her Majesty's Government feel assured that your Excellency will deplore as much as they do such melancholy facts, and will see in them a motive for increased vigilance on the part of the subordinate authorities of Cuba, to carry out your intentions, which are those of your Excellency's Government, and to prevent such a flagrant violation of the Treaty engagements subsisting between the two countries.

Having, in obedience to my instructions, made this communication to your Excellency, it will be my pleasing duty to repeat to Her Majesty's Government the assurance of my implicit confidence in the measures which have been adopted by your Excellency, since your return to the Government of Cuba, for the extirpation of the Slave Trade, as well as of your Excellency's uncompromising determination to enforce the observance of the existing Treaties.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 334.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 24th ultimo,* in which, with reference to the Decree of the 28th of December last, modifying the terms of the General Order

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 549.

issued by General Concha's predecessor on the 1st of January previous, which provided for the complete liberation of the class of negroes in this island which had been up to that time called "emancipados," your Lordship informs me that I may be borne out in regarding with suspicion the fact that this new Decree reverts to the former designation of "emancipados," which did not in the least correspond with the actual condition of that most unfortunate class of persons, and that your Lordship concurs with me in fearing that there may be some reason to apprehend that the real and *bonâ fide* emancipation of these Africans may be again indefinitely postponed.

In obedience to your Lordship's instruction, I took an opportunity of stating these views to the Captain-General on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and of reminding his Excellency of the facts with regard to these Africans which are recapitulated in your Lordship's despatch, which was read over to him; and his Excellency having desired that I should address him in writing upon the subject, I have done so of this date, and have the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a copy of my note, to which I may expect an answer in a few days: but in the meantime I have been given to understand that the alternative for such of these poor people as do not choose to submit to the conditions imposed by the Decree of the 28th December is their leaving the island, which would, to most of them, be a complete banishment to a strange land, the manners, customs, people and language of which would be totally unknown to them, and to that, it would be hard indeed for them to submit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 334.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, March 31, 1855.

HAVING laid before Her Majesty's Government the Decree which your Excellency published on the 28th December last, which altered materially the Decree of your Excellency's predecessor, dated the 1st January, 1854, which provided for the complete liberation of the class of negroes in this island which up to that time had been called "emancipados;" Her Majesty's Government regard with suspicion the fact, that this new Decree reverts to the former designation of "emancipados," which does not in the least correspond with the actual condition of that most unfortunate class of persons, and Her Majesty's Government are fearful that there may be some reason to apprehend that the real and *bonâ fide* emancipation of these Africans may be again indefinitely postponed.

I am therefore instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to state these views to your Excellency on the part of Her Majesty's Government, and to remind your Excellency of the contents of the despatch from General Valdez of the 30th of April, 1842, which was communicated officially to Her Majesty's Government, and in which General Valdez promised that, on the completion of five years from that date, all the emancipated negroes were to enjoy perfect freedom. I am also instructed to refer your Excellency to the assurance given by the Conde de Alcoy to Lord Howden, in March 1853, that all the captured slaves in Cuba—whose liberty the Spanish Crown bound itself, by the Treaty of 1817, to guarantee—should receive their freedom before the end of 1853; and at the same time those captured negroes to whom immediate liberty was promised by Spain, under Article XIII of the Treaty of 1835, should be liberated as soon as they had completed a term of five years, to be reckoned from the date of their last assignment.

I am to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government think it probable that the operation of the Decree of the 28th December may have escaped the attention of your Excellency, and that with regard

to a question of humanity towards that unfortunate class of individuals, Her Majesty's Government prefer making a direct appeal to your Excellency's sense of justice, rather than bring the matter to your notice through the Government of Her Catholic Majesty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 335.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 9, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st of March,* and I have to inform you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba on the 26th of March, pointing out the high average which the importation of slaves into that island reached in the year 1854.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 336.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 9, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 31st of March,† in which you state that you had read to the Captain-General my despatch of the 24th of February, respecting the condition of the class of persons called "emancipados;" and had also, at his Excellency's request, communicated to him in writing the substance of that despatch; I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 337.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a translation of his Excellency the Captain-General's answer to the communication which, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction, and at General Concha's request, I addressed to him on the 28th ultimo, embodying your Lordship's despatch dated the 24th of February, relative to the Decree of the 28th of December last, which modified the General Order issued by the Marquis de la Pezuela on the 1st of January previous, providing for the complete liberation of the class of negroes in this island which had been, up to that time, called "emancipados."

In the despatch dated the 31st ultimo,† which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Lordship, I stated that the alternative which would be proposed to these unfortunate people, that of their leaving the island, would, to most of them, be as a banishment to a strange land, the manners, customs, people, and language of which would be totally unknown to them, and would be, indeed, too hard for them to submit to. Upon the other hand, I observe that, in the Captain-General's letter, which is conceived in a spirit of courtesy and conciliation, he alludes to the fact that, amongst the numbers of emancipados, there have been found many who absolutely required the authority to be held over them, to compel them to work for their maintenance, and others who were

* No. 333.

† No. 334.

still so ignorant, as to be unable to comprehend the change in their position produced by the Marquis de la Pezuela's General Order; so that the protection of the Government was necessary, to extricate them from the dominion of the masters who had them assigned, and who would have continued to retain them, and deal with them as their slaves, for ever.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 337.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Dear Sir,

Havana, April 9, 1855.

I HAVE received the communication addressed to me by your Honour the 28th of March (should be the 31st) last past, stating to me the fears of Her Britannic Majesty's Government that my Decree, published the 28th of last December, alters materially that of my predecessor of the 1st of January, 1854, which prescribed the complete liberty of the class of negroes known until now by the name of "emancipados."

The peculiar nature of this affair, and my attributions as merely Governor Captain-General of this island, do not allow me to admit of discussion in this matter; but with a desire to facilitate negotiations in the proper quarter, and leaving intact the authority and liberty of my Government, I shall venture to explain the principal considerations which I have had before me in this business.

Nothing has been further from my intention, nor less reconcileable with the dispositions of the Decree of December referred to, than the slightest alteration in the social condition of these emancipados. It is not surprising that a mistaken opinion should have been formed, because the dispositions of December are no more than a part of the general system proposed to the Government, and which is still awaiting the approbation of Her Majesty; but it will not be inopportune to anticipate explanations which, if my expectations are not disappointed, will render the publication of the whole of the new Regulations unnecessary at a later period.

This is founded upon two considerations which are very important. The first is, that the entry of free persons of colour into the island being prohibited by the law, the Government has the right to mark the conditions under which they admit those from prizes lawfully declared; the second is, that without the protection of the Government, those unhappy people would very soon fall into the condition of slaves, and would lose all the advantages which a benevolent and enlightened solicitude is desirous of securing to them. It is not meant to alter or modify, in the least, their civil condition (their state, properly speaking): they are free under this view—as completely free as those who pass into that condition by will, by contract, or by redemption; they are in the same case as the colonists, from whatever place they come, and have over them the advantage, that they may at any time throw up their engagements, by declaring their desire to leave the island, and the Government will assist them, and provide the means for complying with their desire to do so. Even the treatment to which they are subjected during their assignment by the Government, has no similarity to slavery, as all other punishments are forbidden excepting the various modes prescribed by the Regulations for Colonists, whether foreigners or Spaniards from the Peninsula.

The only remarkable difference observable between the Marquis de la Pezuela's Regulation, and the dispositions of last December, consists herein, that by the former, the ladinos, or civilized of the class of emancipados, were allowed to engage themselves at the rates of wages fixed by the Government, and the latter gives the Government, as their protector, the power which the Regulations for Colonists gives to those who introduce them; and this difference has been established, because experience has very soon shown that it was necessary, for the Marquis de la Pezuela

was under the necessity of making their engagements in the name of the Government, to prevent them from coming to the decision, in some instances, of not taking any occupation, considering themselves exempted from all control, and in others, because numbers of them, owing to their total ignorance of the rights conferred by the new Regulation, remained completely as the slaves of those who had taken them in charge during the first five years after their arrival in this island.

Therefore the measures dictated by me have tended to insure the good fortune of this class of coloured persons, who could not be abandoned to their natural inclinations, by leaving them without subjection of any kind, since it was not at the desire of the Government, but under the influence ("force majeure") that they had come to inhabit this island.

In this manner I believe I am corresponding to the honourable confidence with which Her Britannic Majesty's Government has been pleased to favour me in respect to these unfortunate people; and I can assure your Excellency that their interest, so as I understand it to be, has been my only guide in the measures dictated in December last.

In so delicate a matter it is impossible to lose sight of general considerations connected with the position of this island, whenever dealing with the affairs of people of colour; and if their exactness may be measured by experience until now, I have every reason to be satisfied with the dispositions which have been published, as, in consequence, the details of this difficult matter are getting out of the confusion in which they had been.

I trust that this also will be the opinion of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, when the foregoing considerations have been taken into account.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 338.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 16, 1856.

I REGRET to be obliged to report to your Lordship that intelligence having reached me of a disembarkation of Bozal negroes to the westward of this port, I found it my duty to write to the Captain-General upon the subject; and I have the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a copy of my letter, bearing date the 8th instant.

I have not been favoured with an answer from his Excellency, but I have had several communications upon the subject with the Government Secretary-General, and it appears that immediate steps were taken, Commissioners were sent, and everything in the power of the Captain-General was done in order to seize the negroes, and arrest all concerned in this transaction, but without effect; so that the Governor Captain-General is perplexed in the extreme, since it has been admitted to his Commissioners that a considerable body of negroes, slaves, and with them some emancipados, were transferred from one place to another in that district at the time mentioned—an invention of the subaltern officers, no doubt, for the purpose of covering their criminality.

My information has been confirmed by two accounts, one of them by letter; and the only discrepancy was as to the place of landing, which was near Bahía Honda, instead of Cabanas.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 339.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, April 8, 1855.*

IT has been stated to me by a person who assures that he had his information from a person who saw the negroes, that a cargo, consisting of 600 Bozals, was landed on Saturday the 31st ultimo at or near Cabanas, from a vessel said to be brig-rigged, and that the Bozals so landed were immediately distributed to various places.

I feel confident that so glaring an offence cannot have escaped the vigilance of your Excellency's officers; and in hastening to address myself to you, expressing my deep regret at such an occurrence, I request the favour of your informing me whether any intelligence thereof has reached your Excellency, and the particulars, for the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 340.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 14.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 21, 1855.

I HAVE had to call the attention of his Excellency the Captain-General to the preparations which have been denounced to me as being in progress for carrying on the Slave Trade; and I have reported to his Excellency the brig "*Casualidad*," as having been dispatched from this port on the 6th instant as a coaster, but in reality bound to the port of El Padre, there to take in her slaver equipments, her water having been got ready at Guanabon; the master and slaver crew having been engaged here, through a certain person called Clavero: the schooner "*Merced*," dispatched also as a coaster from Batabano, for the Playa del Rosario, on pretext of bringing firewood, but in reality there to take in her fittings, &c., for the coast of Africa; the master, Rodriguez (a "*segundo piloto*"), having been known in the Trade, was hired by the same Clavero for the voyage of the "*Merced*" upon this occasion.

I had also heard of a slaver fitting out in this harbour, but had not been able to obtain her name or other particulars, notwithstanding, as so many vessels were getting ready, indicating an extensive combination, I deemed it my duty to notice the circumstance to the Captain-General, in consequence of which the schooner "*Genoveba*" has been placed under the surveillance of the Captain of the Port.

Orders have been issued respecting the "*Casualidad*" and the "*Merced*," so that I am in hopes these expeditions will be interrupted, if not frustrated; but General Concha must see, in such extensive preparations, that his endeavours have not been productive of any change of opinion amongst the slave-traders, and it is to be hoped will satisfy him that the very strongest measures are indispensably necessary to put an end to the Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 340.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a note from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting the conduct of certain subordinate officials in Cuba, of whose connivance at Slave Trade transactions you had complained to the Captain-General.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 341.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 10th, 16th, and 21st of April; and I have to state to you, that I approve the measures taken by you for calling the attention of the Captain-General to the numerous preparations for slave-trading expeditions making at the Havana, as reported in your despatch of the 21st of April.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 342.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 27th of March,† in which your Lordship is pleased to express your approval of my proceedings in the matter of the Indians from Yucatan who have been recently introduced here under the name of "free labourers," but who, there is every reason to believe, have been seized and removed from their native country against their will.

I am willing to do justice to the Captain-General's good intentions with regard to these poor people; but the idea is very deeply impressed upon all the Spaniards here that there is a pressing necessity for the introduction of labourers. Every means will therefore be devised for concealing from his Excellency the true character of these Indian prisoners, making it appear that they have all contracted themselves willingly, so that all the conditions of the general dispositions of the 22nd of March, 1854, are apparently complied with, and leaving General Concha no alternative such as he might perhaps be disposed to adopt, if the information which he has taken the pains to desire should be obtained could reach him otherwise than it does, through the medium of interpreters who are in the interest of the parties engaged in this disgraceful Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* No. 278.

† Class B, presented 1855, No. 555.

No. 343.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received June 4.*)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 2, 1855.

I HAVE now to acquaint your Lordship that I have received advices that another cargo of Indians was about to be dispatched from Sisal by the Mexican brig "Yucateco," all of whom, there was reason to believe, were prisoners, and had been sent from the interior to the port under military escort, and that they would come here accompanied by a special interpreter of Messrs. Goicouria and Brothers.

I shall state all these particulars to his Excellency the Captain-General, so that upon the arrival of the "Yucateco," there may be an impartial investigation of the circumstances stated; but these unfortunate people are so timid, and will arrive so schooled by Goicouria's interpreter, that I must not anticipate any favourable result of those measures which I contemplate, and for the carrying out of which I have already spoken to Mr. Sansores, an interpreter of the Maya language, in whom I have the fullest confidence.

I understand that considerable apprehensions were entertained at Merida, in consequence of its having been discovered, that early in next month the Indians were to bring together all their forces, and attempt to capture that city.

No. 344.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received June 7.*)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 13, 1855.

THE slaver denounced by me on the 8th ultimo, and referred to in my despatch of the 16th ultimo, effected her landing at the Morillo, and 61 of the Bozals have been captured at last by Colonel Gurrea.

I understand that there was a thorough combination to deceive the Captain-General's officers upon this occasion, and that there was good reason for supposing that 300 of the Bozals in question had been taken to two estates in the neighbourhood of Bahia Honda; therefore they were visited by order of the Captain-General, but without effect, for although there were 600 slaves on them, instead of 300, of which their dotation used to consist, the excess had all been provided with passes as "ladinos," and the "peritos," or experienced persons, who were called in, were unable to detect them as Bozals.

We have thus accounted for 361 of that cargo, and the rest of the 600 are, no doubt, safe on other estates where they will not be molested.

There is little doubt that another cargo consisting of about 170 Bozals landed near the same part of the coast on the 19th April, and my informant says that they were brought from the slaver in launches which were sent out from the shore.

Having received intelligence from his Excellency General Concha, who had had a communication from the Spanish Consul at Key West, that the wreckers had fallen in with a brig, without any person on board, about twenty miles to the south of Sand Key, and sixty miles from the coast of this island: said vessel was towed into Key West on the 25th ultimo, and turned out to be a brigantine that had recently had on board a cargo of slaves. I in consequence got Captain Tarleton, of Her Majesty's ship "Eurydice," to send the "Arab" over with a letter which I addressed to Vice-Consul O'Hara to inquire the particulars, and it appears there is no doubt of said derelict having been used as a slaver. She had eighty-one large water-casks, many of them full of fresh water, and other proofs that, shortly previous to her having been fallen in with, she had had slaves on board. There were no papers or colours; a few damaged leaves of an old log-book, purporting to have been kept on board the "*Horatio*" up to about the middle of the year 1854, and some writing

in French to the effect, "the brig '*Horatio*,' laden with cotton from New Orleans for Nantes, 1853;" and there was found on the side of the cabin the working of a meridian altitude of the sun, showing the latitude 3° north, and the declination, according to the nautical almanac, corresponding to the 21st of March last; the brig was, therefore, in that latitude of that date, which would be her probable position if she landed her cargo of slaves on the 19th ultimo, upon the coast of this island. Under the coating of black paint the name "*Horatio*," of New York, may easily be made out on her stern; and that was all the information which the Vice-Consul was able to furnish me: enough, however, to satisfy me that there was a second landing of slaves near Bahia Honda, inasmuch as that a vessel, in 3° north latitude on the 21st March, could not possibly run the necessary distance to effect a landing of her cargo by the 31st, which was the date of the disembarkation which I denounced to the Captain-General on the 8th ultimo.

The derelict in question was ordered to be sold by the Admiralty Court of the United States at Key West on the 9th instant.

Your Lordship will not fail to observe how insufficient the authority of the Captain-General is to put an end to the Slave Trade, as shown by the circumstances of this recent case. First of all, his Excellency had not received any intimation of the landing until it was denounced by me. Secondly, his Excellency's Commissioner, expressly dispatched to investigate the affair, reported in the first instance that there had been no landing of slaves whatever; and it was not until some days afterwards, and my insisting upon the correctness of my information, that it was admitted to be true, and then Colonel Gurrea was dispatched in pursuit.

Does this not prove that the combinations of the slave-traders are superior to the Captain-General's means of enforcing his honestly intended dispositions, and that thereby the authority of the Government is set at naught?

And then, what has been the result? The capture of 61 of the 600 slaves who were landed. But General Concha says there were not 600 Bozals, but 360 only; and is not this to confess that his authority is insufficient to capture five-sixths of the number which, it will not be disputed, were landed in this instance; and so it has been in every instance until now. It is true that Colonel Gurrea fell in with a dray loaded with clothing for the landed negroes, that he detained those who were with it, and that he has arrested several subaltern officers of the coast who were stationed at or near where the landing took place. But, can proofs be obtained to punish those persons if they connived at the introduction of the slaves? Until now, my Lord, we have no experience of such a result, and so some hundreds more have been added to the numbers of those unhappy human beings who are toiling in slavery.

No. 345.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 12, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of April, and with reference to that portion of it in which you state that every artifice is resorted to by those interested in the importation of the Indian prisoners from Yucatan into Cuba, to conceal from the Captain-General the true nature of the contracts into which these unfortunate people are compelled to enter, I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of pointing out to his Excellency that there is nothing more notorious than the unwillingness of Indians to quit their own country, unless it be their aversion to regular labour; and these facts alone should convince the Captain-General that these Indians have not voluntarily quitted Yucatan to go and work in Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 346.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of May, reporting the measures which you had taken with a view of obtaining an impartial investigation of the cases of another cargo of Yucatan Indians which had been announced to you as having been dispatched to Cuba, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings as reported in that despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 347.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 16th of April and the 13th ultimo, respecting the disembarkation of 600 Africans at or near Cabanas, on the 31st of March, I transmit herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, instructing him to make a representation to the Spanish Government upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 348.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 15th April, transmitting, for my information, a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, stating that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs had informed him that the authorities of Cuba had seized and declared to be free 257 negroes, who were landed on or near the Isle of Pines, and 263 who were found in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda. I have to state that these captures were effected during the government of his Excellency the Marquis de la Pezuela, on the 26th June and 25th August, and 13th September last year, and were duly reported by me in my despatch of the 6th July, and, specially, in the recapitulation contained in that dated the 27th of September, 1854.

Upon perusal of the Spanish Secretary of State's notes of the 9th March addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, I was in hopes that these captures might have been made more recently, and that I had had no information of them. I noticed, however, that no mention is made, in either of these communications to Lord Howden, of the dates of the said captures, and I therefore applied to the Government Secretary upon the subject, when I discovered that these were affairs of the former Government, and that they had not escaped my vigilance, having been duly mentioned to your Lordship at the proper time.

There was last month an alarm as to the landing of a considerably large cargo in the district of Cienfuegos. The authorities were sent out in the direction of the Ensenada de los Cochinos, but they were unable to make any discoveries. The rumour has now been revived at Trinidad,

where it was said the disembarkation had been effected at the Manati, a place to the westward of the port of Casilda, but Mr. Smith had been unable to trace the rumour to any reality.

From information which I myself picked up, I am induced to think that a cargo of Bozals was run, high up in the Ensenada de los Cochinos, about the middle, or perhaps earlier in the last month of May; that the slaves were passed i to the interior through the extensive marsh of the Zapata, at the head of the Ensenada just mentioned, and that all trace of them was lost by the authorities.

No. 349.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

(Extract.)

Havana, May 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 16th of April, transmitting the copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to him on the 12th of March by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating the reasons why the Spanish Government cannot consent to the request which was addressed to them by Her Majesty's Government, through Lord Howden, that certain modifications should be introduced into the Royal Decrees of the 22nd of March, 1854, with reference to the prejudicial effect which they have upon the interests of the Yucatan Indians.

In my despatch dated the 2nd instant, I alluded to another cargo of these unfortunates being expected here. The brig "Yucateco" has since arrived with 102 Indians to the Messrs. Goicouria, and I lost not a moment in addressing the Captain-General with the particulars stated respecting them, to the effect that they had been forced to enter into contracts, and had been sent to Sisal, under a guard, and tied together as prisoners, in which manner they had effected their embarkation, and I solicited the fullest investigation of the circumstances through the medium of a capable and impartial interpreter, suggesting Dr. Sansores, in whom I have full confidence, for that purpose.

I have not been honoured by any acknowledgment of, or reply to, that letter, but I know that the Indians were admitted, and I have learnt, privately, that they expressed themselves as being satisfied with their lot, and would rather remain here under their agreements than be sent back to Yucatan.

I am, however, under the impression that that expression, on their part, has been caused by the intimidation to which they were subjected by the alternative of being shot, or engaging themselves to proceed, as labourers, to Cuba, and that they are still under the belief that, if sent back to Yucatan, the other alternative would be had recourse to.

No. 350.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 17th of April, informing me that your Lordship had been pleased to transmit copies of my despatches of the 30th December and of the 1st of February last, to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, with instructions to bring to the notice of the Spanish Government the statements contained therein, as to the condition of the Cuban emancipados, and transmitting to me, for my information, a copy of a despatch which you had received from Lord Howden, inclosing a note addressed to his Lordship on the 29th of March by the Spanish Minister for Foreign

Affairs, in which his Excellency promises that the condition of the emancipados shall be inquired into.

I have reason to know that the examination of an enormous mass of proceedings ("expedientes") for the purpose of ascertaining the fate of all the emancipados, has just been, or is about to be, concluded, and I believe that I am safe in stating to your Lordship that there can be little or no doubt that the result of this most intricate and laborious investigation is, that between 3,000 and 4,000 emancipados have been made to supply the places of as many of the slaves who have died, so that from 3,000 to 4,000 of that unfortunate class who ought to be free are converted into slaves, and that this trickery has been practised in such a manner as that it is impossible to trace the victims and extricate them from their servile condition—a most lamentable proof of the depravity of human nature which prevails in this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 351.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

(Extract.)

Havana, June 6, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 18th of April, transmitting, for my information, a copy of a letter which your Lordship had received, communicating particulars respecting the landing of a cargo of slaves at St. Jago de Cuba, in December last, from a steamer under Spanish colours, called the "*Tayaba*."

It appears that the information comes from John E. Lapworth, late the master of the ship "*Isabel*," of Liverpool, which foundered at sea, and who, as well as the crew of said vessel, were picked up off the coast of Cuba by the Spanish coasting passage-boat "*Tayaba*."

The said master was afterwards brought from Mansanilla to the port of Batabanó, on board of the same steamer passage-boat "*Tayaba*," and he came here, when I saw him frequently at this office; but he never mentioned anything whatever about there having been slaves on board the coasting-steamer at the time of the rescue of himself and the crew of the "*Isabel*" from their very perilous situation, which seems to me as rather extraordinary, as it would have been his duty to have made a declaration of the circumstance at the time, rather than that he should have kept it secret until so considerable a period had elapsed after he had got to England.

Captain Estolt, of the "*Tayaba*," behaved towards the wrecked crew of the "*Isabel*" in the most kind and humane manner. After he had fallen in with the long-boat, he altered his course in order to seek the other smaller and frailer shallop, in which he was successful; he supplied their wants, and took them to Mansanilla, from whence, upon his return voyage, he took on board the master, and, as I said before, brought him to Batabanó, refusing for all this service to receive payment of any kind, and thereby becoming entitled to the notice of Her Majesty's Government, to which I would respectfully recommend him for his noble and disinterested conduct towards the distressed crew of the "*Isabel*."

I have already mentioned that the master of the "*Isabel*" never informed me that the "*Tayaba*" had a cargo of slaves on board, and that that was made an excuse by the Spanish captain for not receiving the English crew on board his vessel. I will now state to your Lordship that, being in the practice of corresponding with Mr. Hall, of Mansanilla, in cases like that of the crew of the "*Isabel*," for providing relief to distressed British sailors, I was in correspondence with him on that occasion; and as he contributed much in getting the crew of the "*Isabel*" shipped and sent away from that place, I am sure that if any of them had mentioned that there was a cargo of slaves on board the vessel by which they were

rescued, Mr. Hall would not have failed to report the fact to me without a moment's delay: and besides that, what would have become of the vigilance of Her Majesty's Consul at Santiago de Cuba, had the "*Tayaba*" brought in and landed a cargo of slaves at that place?

Under these circumstances, my Lord, I am induced to place no confidence whatever in the statement of Mr. Lapworth which has been so kindly brought under your Lordship's notice; and, in conclusion, I have to inform your Lordship that the "*Tayaba*" was totally destroyed by fire in April last, in the harbour of St. Jago.

No. 352.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 3, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st ultimo, stating that you have reason to believe that it will be shown, by the result of a late inquiry into the fate of the emancipados, that between 3,000 and 4,000 of that unfortunate class who ought to be free have been converted into slaves by having been made to supply the places of an equal number of slaves who have died.

Her Majesty's Government have received this statement with deep regret; and they conceive it to be impossible that this base fraud should have been committed without the knowledge and connivance of some of the authorities in Cuba.

You will mention to the Captain-General the facts of this case; and if they cannot be denied, you will request his Excellency to inform you how it happened that such proceedings were tolerated.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 353.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 31st of May, stating that 192 more Indian prisoners had been imported into Cuba from Yucatan, on account of Messrs. Goicouria, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have addressed to Mr. Otway, instructing him to make a representation to the Spanish Government upon this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 354.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 23.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 23, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 13th instant, respecting the slavers which, I had been informed by Mr. Vice-Consul Smith, he had heard, and had reason to believe, were expected to arrive on the coast of that district, whilst he at the same time expressed himself in terms of perfect satisfaction with regard to the activity and vigilance of the Lieutenant-Governor, Colonel Lansarote, and your Lordship will perceive, by

* No. 283.

General Concha's answer, that his Excellency is quite alive to the necessity of the utmost vigilance being exercised by the authorities.

The slavers alluded to as being expected, are said to be expeditions in connection with the Portuguese-Brazilian Company, and I yesterday received information that there was a strong suspicion of a vessel being looked for on the north coast, to the westward of Bahia Honda, between La Mulata and Rio Blanco, which I at once communicated to Captain Tarleton, of the "Eurydice," senior officer of Her Majesty's squadron stationed here for suppression of the Slave Trade, who informs me that there is a cruiser off the place indicated, and that Her Majesty's brig sloop "Wolverine" will forthwith proceed to the coast of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritus, and Cienfuegos, with instructions for the Commander to put himself in communication with the Vice-Consuls who are there stationed.

I have the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship that 33 Bozal negroes were captured near Cabanas, about twelve days ago, by the Alcalde of Guanajay, probably belonging to the cargoes landed in that district in April, and reported in my despatch of the 13th of May. When fallen in with, there were some 70 negroes, of whom less than half were taken.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 354.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, June 13, 1855.

THE British Vice-Consul, under date the 9th current, writes to me from Trinidad, that the Governor is using every vigilance, in consequence of the rumours in circulation as to the expected arrival in that district of various expeditions of Bozal negroes from the coast of Africa, which the slave-traders intended to land at some part of the coast, but which it would, according to the Vice-Consul's opinion, be difficult to effect, or, indeed, be impossible, owing to the dispositions of the worthy Lieutenant-Governor Colonel Ruez de Lanzarote.

But if compatible with the good service of Her Catholic Majesty, it appears to me that it would be very advisable to recommend the greatest vigilance to the captains, commanders, and officers of the Royal Navy who are stationed at, or may be passing, that coast, as it is very probable the slave-vessels which are expected may be already in the neighbourhood, waiting for an opportunity of effecting a landing.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 354.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, June 15, 1855.

BEFORE receiving your Honour's communication dated the 13th instant, this Government already had information of the disembarkation of Bozal negroes, which it appears it is intended to effect on the coasts of the jurisdiction of Trinidad; and the Lieutenant-Governor, that of Sancti Spiritus, and that of Cienfuegos, had already adopted the most active and opportune measures to capture whatever landing might be attempted.

I, for my part, also gave the convenient orders, in accord with his Excellency the Commandant-General of the Station, that a vessel of Her Majesty should proceed in pursuit of the slavers in all directions, wherever it might be suspected they would try to carry out their reprobated undertaking; and I have ultimately given to the authorities

mentioned the most positive orders, not to omit any means or exertion to accomplish the apprehension of whatever disembarkation they may try to carry into execution, holding them liable for the least neglect in the fulfilment of my orders, or of their duties.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 355.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 1, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd of June, reporting the steps which you had taken, on hearing that three slavers were expected shortly to arrive on the coast of Cuba; and I have, in reply, to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 356.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 2, 1855.

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a letter, dated yesterday, which I was under the disagreeable necessity of addressing to his Excellency the Captain-General upon the subject of a disembarkation of slaves which took place at Cabanas about the middle of last month.

Inclosure in No. 356.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, July 1, 1855.

IT is my disagreeable duty to notice to your Excellency the disembarkation of Bozal negroes which took place at Cabanas lately, and I am enabled to state to your Excellency that the cargo consisted of 480, of whom some 19 or 20 were females, the remainder males of the Congo nation.

The vessel was brig-rigged, and is said to have been dispatched for Campeche as soon as the cargo of slaves had been landed. The mate, or some other person, and two others, persons from on board the slaver, remained with the Bozals at the Ingenio San Augustin, belonging to Don Francisco Aguirre, where the negroes were concealed in the "casa de punga."

Of this cargo, 50 Bozals were reserved for the estate of Aguirre; 40 were sold to the son of Dr. Candido Rubio, on whose estate they are; 40 were sold to the Conde de la Reunion, and were taken to his estate, the Dos Hermanos; some smaller lots were also disposed of in numbers of 10; and 100 were set aside for a person who went from this city to Cabanas, for the purpose of buying that number, but who would not do so when he understood that they were Bozals so recently landed; and those 100 negroes were still concealed in the "casa de punga," at the Ingenio San Augustin, a day or two ago, where they most probably are still.

It is said that this scandalous violation of the law and of the Treaties, took place with the knowledge and connivance of the Lieutenant-Governor, the First Alcalde, the Capitan de Partido, Commandante de Civiles, Alcalde de Mar, &c., who were in the "casa vivienda" of the "ingenio" when the whole of the negroes were in the "casa de punga;" that one of these

authorities received 300 ounces for his share, and that upwards of 15,000 dollars were paid for the whole expedition.

I have also been informed that one of the persons who has a share in this cargo is Don José Seguí, a resident and proprietor of the “fonda” and billiard-table at Cabanas, where a child of 5 or 6 years old may be found, which negrito was landed from the slave-vessel in question, and that persons of the name of Mora (who are the owners of the “carroseria,” opposite the Cuartel de Dragones) are also the owners of this expedition of Africans, and that the broker employed by them to sell their share of the cargo is Señor Cuadra, who resides at the Cerro, and is proprietor of a line of coaches which run between this city and Guanajay.

I am also enabled to state to your Excellency that another cargo of negroes (Lucumis) is expected, near the same place for which the arrangements are made in a similar manner with Don Juan Gisper, the Captain of the Partido, who is in communication with his relative the Captain of Anabona, where another expedition is daily looked for: besides which through the same combination, several more cargoes are soon to arrive, the “fés de bautismo” and the “cedulas” for all of which negroes so expected are already prepared, so that they can be sold with their papers ready to be passed on to any “ingenio,” in the same manner as those recently landed at Cabanas.

I need not trouble your Excellency with any observations upon the scandalous and infamous nature of such transactions, which prove, beyond the possibility of doubt or of contradiction, that no measure can be too strong to punish all and everybody in any way connected with and conniving at the detestable Traffic.

I have been informed that the 33 Bozals captured of these cargoes were the “infirmos” of the expedition, whom it was agreed to give up “to cover the expediente,” and that they were actually taken out of the “casa de punga” of the “ingenio,” from amongst the rest for that purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 357.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed, of yesterday's date, to his Excellency the Captain-General in consequence of Mr. Vice-Consul Smith having reported to me a rumour which was circulated and believed at Trinidad, that a slaver had effected a landing of 450 Bozals at a place (not named) about seventy miles to the eastward of Trinidad, but in the district of Sancti Spiritus; as well as that Mr. Smith had directed the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor of Trinidad to the signals which had been made at night from the “vigía” at that place, which are usual, and which are generally observed to be made, when there are slavers known to be, or expected, on that coast.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 357.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, July 3, 1855.

THE British Vice-Consul writes me from Trinidad, of date the 30th ultimo, informing me that it was rumoured and believed there, that one of the expeditions expected on that coast, had effected a landing of 450 slaves

CLASS B.

3 E

in the jurisdiction of Sancti Spiritus, and that the "vigia" at Trinidad had been busy making night-signals, as is usually the case when slavers are expected. The Vice-Consul had, in consequence, taken an opportunity of mentioning this latter circumstance to the Lieutenant-Governor.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 358.

[*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 4, 1855.

HAVING received intelligence as to a slaver brig-rigged, which is said to have arrived off the Port of Cabanas some ten days ago, but which had not been able to effect the landing of her cargo; as well as that another, a schooner, with a cargo of slaves, is expected at Ortigosa; I considered it my duty to address a letter to the Captain-General upon the subject, in which I took occasion to allude to the circumstance of the numerous preparations which are going on for carrying on the Slave Trade upon an extended scale.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of that letter, to which I have not received answer, but I understand that his Excellency has dispatched the Brigadier Commander-in-chief of the Staff with a considerable force of Cavalry to watch the coast, and with orders to search for recently imported slaves wherever he may have received information of their being harboured or concealed.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 358.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, July 3, 1855.

I HAVE received information that the arrangements for the disembarkation of the cargo of Bozal negroes which, it is already known to your Excellency, has been for some days hovering on the coast near Cabanas, were made with and through the agency of Don Ignacio Valor, the Alcalde or Assessor of that district, at the rate of three and a-half ounces a-head, and that besides that vessel, which is brig-rigged, there is a schooner every moment expected to attempt a landing of her cargo of slaves at Ortigosa.

I have also been informed that the Spanish schooner "*Mariana*," which sailed from this port on the 21st ultimo, cleared out for Fernando Po, has called at and taken in her slave fittings at an outport, from whence she has again sailed for the coast of Africa to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

The schooner "*Reemplazo*" was taking in aguardiente at this port, destined, like the "*Mariana*," for the coast of Africa, to be engaged in the Slave Trade; but the Marine Department requiring a "fianza," the parties engaged in that enterprise have determined to give it up as regards the "*Reemplazo*," but are sending to the United States, there to purchase a suitable vessel and carry out their intention.

I understand that there is another schooner fitting out in this harbour also to be engaged in the Slave Trade; her name I have not yet been able to obtain.

In this manner your Excellency will perceive that this detestable Traffic is being carried on upon an extensive scale at present, and that there are preparations for continuing it to a greater extent in time coming; thus calling for the exercise of stronger measures than have

hitherto been applied for its suppression, proving also that the law, as it is at present, is totally inadequate for that purpose, and, consequently, that the Treaties continue to be violated with complete impunity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 359.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received August 13.*)

(Extract.)

Havana, July 21, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship translation of a Decree which was published in the Gazette of yesterday, imposing fines upon the persons who may be making use of false cédulas in order to cover the slaves upon their properties, and authorising the authorities to count the negroes upon estates where it is suspected there may be an excess of those registered, or who have tickets which have not been lawfully obtained; a measure which, if honestly carried into execution, would be exceedingly beneficial, and would operate as an effectual impediment to the owners of slaves having a greater number than they could lawfully account for.

Inclosure in No. 359.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Government Secretary's Office.

IN order that tickets (cedulas) of security of the slaves should not serve to favour with impunity the clandestine introduction of Bozals if they are obtained under feigned names in numbers exceeding said documents, and with reference to the Bando of the 19th of December last, which establishes a fine of 10 dollars for each slave that has no ticket, still there is no provision for the contrary case of obtaining tickets for slaves who do not exist, I have found it convenient to order, as an addition to said Bando, the observance of the following dispositions :

Art. 1. The proprietors or holders of slaves who solicit more cedulas (tickets) than they require for them (their slaves) will incur a fine of 50 dollars for every one exceeding the true number.

Art. 2. When the Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, or Captains of Districts, have suspicions that such frauds have been committed, they will proceed to count the dotations upon the estates suspected.

This operation shall always be done by the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of the District, and for that purpose the Captains will give to them the corresponding information (or report).

Art. 3. The Governors and Lieutenant-Governors will form a governative process in which the offence will be shown, imposing, of themselves, the fine stated in the 1st Article, and forwarding the process to the superior Government.

Art. 4. If there are inferences that the offence has been committed in connivance with any clandestine introduction of Bozals, or rather, if from the examination of the cedulas (tickets) of the last half-year, it appears that they have been given to Bozal negroes, the process is to be passed to the tribunals that they may proceed to take proper steps according to the laws.

Havana, July 19, 1855.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 360.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 29, 1855.

HER Majesty's Government being desirous to manifest their approbation of the humane and meritorious conduct of Captain Estolt, of the Spanish coasting passage-boat "Tayaba," in saving the crew of the ship "Isabel," of Liverpool, under the circumstances detailed in your despatch of the 6th of June last, have awarded to him the accompanying gold medal, which you will transmit to him either directly or through the Spanish authorities, as you may judge most expedient.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 361.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 29, 1855.

I HAVE received a despatch from Mr. Backhouse, &c., inclosing a copy of the Regulations published on the 5th of June last, by the Captain-General of Cuba, by which provision is made for carrying out the final order of the Royal Spanish Decree of the 22nd of March, 1854, respecting immigrants into Cuba, and laying down rules for the complete registration of that class of labourers.

Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction this proof of General Concha's desire to carry out the humane intentions of his Government towards the immigrants; but I have at the same time to observe that the provision of the Decree as to the period of registration has not been adhered to, as the registration which ought to have been made in January last will not take place till the 1st of September next, and the next following one not until November 1856; whereas it is expressly provided in the original Decree that the registers should be filled up in the month of January of each year; and I have to desire that you will take an opportunity of expressing to the Captain-General the regret of Her Majesty's Government that so salutary an arrangement as the one made in the first instance should not have been carried out, and that, under the orders recently issued by his Excellency, a longer period than twelve months should be allowed to elapse between each registration of immigrants.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 362.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd July last, reporting your denunciation to the Captain-General of a landing of 480 Bozal negroes which had taken place at Cabanas with the connivance of the local authorities, and I have to state that I approve your having done so.

No. 363.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 30, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 21st July, I have to instruct you to express to the Captain-General the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at his Excellency's Decree of the 19th July.

No. 364.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 31, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 24th November last,* reporting the disembarkation at the Ensenada de Cochinos, and at Punta Nuevas, of three cargoes of Africans, amounting in all to about 1,800, I have to inform you that I instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid to make a representation upon the subject to the Spanish Government, and to point out that, owing to the repeal of the Marquis de la Pezuela's Bando of the 3rd of May, 1854, it was probable that all those Africans had been safely introduced into the neighbouring estates, and that they had been made slaves, beyond the reach of General Concha's Decree of the 17th of November.

And I now transmit to you, for your information, and for any observations that you may have to make thereupon, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Otway, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, inclosing a note addressed to him, on the 14th ultimo, by General Zavala, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to the communication upon the subject of the landings of slaves above referred to, which Lord Howden addressed to his Excellency's predecessor.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 365.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 7, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of submitting to your Lordship, herewith inclosed, a list of the Chinese labourers imported here up to the present time, with the names of the vessels in which they came; the consignees of said Asiatics; the tonnage of the ships; and the number brought by each.

These labourers came engaged for eight years, so that the contracts of those imported in the year 1847 have expired, but I have not heard that any of them have applied to be sent back to China. No doubt a great number of them have died, so that probably not more than half of those who arrived that year are surviving; and as most of them have risen to posts of trust and confidence upon the estates, I am of opinion that in general they have bettered their condition by coming here, but this opinion I would restrict to those of the Chinese who first were brought over. They are too numerous now to obtain preferment, and as they are treated with very little more consideration than the slaves, I consider that their position now, and henceforth, as regards further importations, is, and will be, exceedingly miserable.

The estimation in which they are held by the planters, is as varied as are the characters of their masters; upon some estates they are preferred to the Africans, upon others they are not at all prized. They are, however, acknowledged to be superior to the negro in intelligence; but in many instances they have displayed a malicious and vindictive disposition, and have had recourse to incendiarism of the works and cane-fields, out of revenge for punishments, or what they may have considered ill-treatment of other kinds.

Their importation has been found to be a profitable speculation hitherto, and therefore it is likely to be continued for some time longer, but I doubt, if their numbers are much increased, that their superiority of intelligence will give rise to alarm on the part of the Government, the more so as it will hardly be possible to continue to subject them to the severe dominion which is exercised over them by their masters, hardly

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 532.

† No. 290.

differing from that which is enforced upon the slaves with whom they are set to work. Some of their superiority of intellect and intelligence will unavoidably pass to their African co-labourers, and if discontent should arise, which may reasonably be anticipated, the consequences would be very serious.

I understand the expenses attending the engaging and bringing over of these coolies amounts to about 85 dollars, and the price paid for transfer of them under their contracts, is about 170 dollars and 12 dollars besides, as reimbursement for two suits of clothing, which are furnished to each, previous to their sailing from China.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 365.

LIST of the Chinese Labourers imported at the Havana, with the Dates, Names of Vessels, and Consignees.

Date of Arrivals.	Vessels' Names.	Where from.	Consignees.	Ship's Tonnage.				Number of Asiatics.	Remarks.
				Spanish.	British.	Portuguese.	American.		
1847									
June 3	Oquendo	Amoy	Arrietta	350	...	...	...	200	
July 20	Duke of Argyle	Ditto	Penasco	...	629	...	...	400	
1853									
Mar. 10	Blenheim	Ditto	Villoldo and Co.	...	808	...	...	480	
" 14	Panamá	Ditto	Ditto	...	522	...	...		
" 14	Gertrude	Ditto	Ditto	...	605	...	...		198
" 30	Inchinnan	Ditto	Ditto	...	565	...	...	335	
Apr. 17	Sophia	Macao	Pereda and Co.	...	...	240	...	233	
" 21	Lady Amherst	Amoy	Villoldo and Co.	...	446	...	...	225	
May 2	Viagente	Macao	Pereda and Co.	...	...	376	...	249	
" 11	Sir Thos. Gresham	Amoy	Villoldo and Co.	...	594	...	...	320	
" 22	Columbus	Ditto	Ditto	...	468	...	...	266	
June 27	Bella Gallega	Ditto	Pereda and Co.	800	...	...	...	381	
Aug. 30	Sapho	Ditto	Villoldo and Co.	...	446	...	...	194	
Sept. 1	Medina	Ditto	Ditto	...	960	...	...	380	
1854									
May 18	Menzies	Swatao	Pereda and Co.	...	448	...	...	299	
" 23	Emigrante	Macao	Ditto	...	...	630	...	539	
1855									
April 8	Bella Gallega	Swatao	Ditto	433	...	...	...	396	
" 23	Roxburgh Castle	Amoy	Ditto	...	1,121	...	...	575	
May 30	Carpentaria	Swatao	Ditto	...	1,460	...	...	704	
June 30	Martin Luther	Ditto	Ditto	...	1,241	...	...	577	
July 22	Hound	Macao	Ditto	...	...	...	713	228	
" 24	Skylark	Swatao	Ditto	...	...	...	1,209	532	
								7,711	

The Coolies by the "Blenheim" and "Panamá" got intermixed at the quarantine ground, and could not be separated afterwards; there were originally on board the two vessels 803, so that 323 died. Of the "Gertrude's" 159 died. Of the "Medina's" 50 died; 3 of "Inchinnan's," 56 of the "Sapho's," and 3 to 5 per cent. of the rest by British vessels.

No. 366.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter of yesterday's date, which I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General, respecting a landing of Bozal negroes,* which was effected on Sunday last, at Ortigosa, without let or hindrance of the Government officers, as not one of so large a number of slaves have been captured, nor is it probable that they will be, as they were furnished with "cedulas" or tickets of protection, and their certificates of baptism, as soon as they were landed.

In my denouncement of this glaring infraction of the law and of the existing Treaties, I have mentioned the names of the most active agents, Ascarate and Aguirre; but Don José Suarez Argudin, and Don Lorenzo Pedro, and others, are said to be interested in the expedition, and that they are expecting several more slavers.

Inclosure in No. 366.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, August 9, 1855.*

IT is with great regret that I have to notice to your Excellency the disembarkation of a cargo consisting of 510 Bozal negroes at Ortigosa which took place a few days ago (on Sunday last), as I am informed.

These slaves were provided with cedulas and certificates of baptism as soon as they were landed, and their disembarkation was effected without any interruption from the Government officers.

The prominent agent is a person of the name of Ascarate, who is "mayordomo," or administrator of some estates belonging to the family of the Brigadier Falguera, and Don Francisco Aguirre and others are interested with said Ascarate in the adventure.

Such repeated infractions of the Treaties cannot fail to attract the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and it will be my duty to represent that the powers delegated to your Excellency by the Supreme Government appear to me to be insufficient for putting down the detestable Traffic, which continues to be carried on with greater boldness than has ever been known, in seeming defiance of the positive dispositions which had been dictated by your Excellency to enforce the observance of the Treaties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 367.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 11, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of yesterday's date I beg leave to state to your Lordship that there was an inaccuracy in the denouncement which I made to the Captain-General of the recent landing of 510 Bozal negroes, which inaccuracy I have corrected, having ascertained that the disembarkation was effected, not at Ortigosa, but at San

* 510 in number, at Ortigosa, on the 5th August.

Cayetano, a place about forty or fifty miles to the westward of the one first designated, without any sort of hindrance or interruption, and from thence they were at once conducted and hidden in the copper mines of Don José Suarez Argudin.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 368.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 16, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a list of the Yucatan Indians imported at this place up to this date, under the contracts which were authorised by the Mexican Government of General Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana, to Messrs. Goicouria Brothers and Zangronis Brothers, of this city.

The Indians are by no means robust, and, although exceedingly docile, they have not generally the activity and intelligence of the Chinese, nor can they compare either with them or with the negroes in strength to endure the fatigues of field labour.

For that reason the speculators in the inhuman Traffic, as it is and has been carried on from the peninsula of Yucatan, have not found it as profitable as they imagined it would have been.

Your Lordship will observe that, since the 11th of May, 226 of these unfortunates have arrived, and I understand that more than half of them are still on Messrs. Zangronis' hands, costing a considerable amount daily for their maintenance, besides the rental of the farm where they are lodged, and their medical attendance: add to which that a good many of them have died from the effects of their voyage, depression of spirits, and the vomits and cholera which prevail at present to an alarming extent, especially the latter, which is and has been committing sad ravages amongst the troops and debilitated persons, such as these Indians, a considerable portion of whom, last imported, were women and children, who, owing to their having had a long passage from Sisal, arrived in a most helpless condition.

It is probably for that reason, its having turned out less remunerative than they expected, that the Messrs. Goicouria are said to have sold, or transferred, their interest in the privilege to their partners the Messrs. Zangronis; but as there have been several arrivals from Yucatan lately and no Indians have come, I am very much inclined to think that they have become aware of the risk they run of being kidnapped, that they take care to keep out of the way of the Mexican soldiery and of the contractors' emissaries, and that, therefore, free labourers from Yucatan are not now so easily found as they were formerly, when they had no suspicions as to the infamous practices which Her Majesty's Consular Agent has reported were had recourse to by Goicouria's and Zangronis' agents in that country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 368.

LIST of Yucatan Indians imported at Havana, under the arrangements of Goicouria Brothers, and Zangronis Brothers, with the Mexican Government of General Don Antonio Lopez Santa Ana.

Date of Arrival.	Vessels' Names.	Nation.	Tons.	Consignees.	No. of Indians.
1855					
Jan. 7	Maria Jacinta	Mexican ..	82	Goicouria	27
„ 18	Anita	Ditto ..	85	Ditto	94
Feb. 28	Yucateco	Spanish ..	134	Ditto	69
May 11	Ditto	Ditto .	134	Zangronis	144
June 15	Martin . . .	Ditto .	161	Ditto	82
				Total ..	416

Of those per “Anita” there died 3 on the voyage from Yucatan.

Of those per “Yucateco,” first voyage, there died 8 on the voyage from Yucatan.

Of those per “Martin,” first voyage, there died 5 on the voyage from Yucatan.

Havana, August 16, 1855.

No. 369.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 1, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the shipment from near the mouth of the Congo, in March last, of 350 slaves on board an American schooner destined for Cuba.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 370.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 25, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd ultimo, in which, with reference to the statement I made in my despatch dated the 1st of June, your Lordship directs me to mention the facts resulting from the recent inquiry into the fate of the emancipados, to the Captain-General. As I have been promised access to the proceedings under the inquiry referred to, I propose to look into these (as I am informed) exceedingly elaborate and searching records, before addressing his Excellency upon this important and interesting subject, and I shall then be enabled to report fully thereon to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* Class A, No. 71.

No. 371.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 28, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship a translation of a letter which I have received from his Excellency the Captain-General in answer to my communications of the 9th and 11th instant, as reported to your Lordship in my previous despatches dated the 10th and 11th instant, relative to the landing of a cargo consisting of 510 Bozal negroes, at a place on the north coast of this island.

Your Lordship will perceive that no traces of any such disembarkation of slaves having been discovered by the Government officers, General Concha states his belief that there has been no landing effected.

In consequence of that result as reported to the Captain-General, I deemed it my duty to inquire as to its correctness, and I have been assured by parties who state that they have had the means of knowing from authentic sources, that notwithstanding the Government's efforts to obtain information upon this subject, and to capture the newly-introduced negroes, have failed, there is not the least doubt as to the fact that 510 slaves were landed at San Cayetano on the 3rd instant, and that they are hidden in some of the caves or fastnesses of the mountains in the district of Consolacion del Norte.

I have even learnt that the vessel, under Spanish colours and brig-rigged, made the voyage from the place of her equipment in this island to the coast of Africa and back in four months and eleven days; that the "senior piloto's" name was Paco, and that of the boatswain or "contramestre," Pepe, known as the Mahonese.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 371.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 22, 1855.

PREVIOUS to your Honour's communication of the 9th of this month reaching me, the Commandant-General of the "Vuelta de Abajo" (Leeward District) had announced the rumours which had come to his knowledge of a disembarkation of Bozals in the district of Bahia Honda, although without special report that in reality it had been effected. I gave, by telegraph, instantly, the most positive orders to all my subordinates along that coast to redouble the vigilance which I had pressed upon them, and although the intelligence which I incessantly was receiving more and more confirmed my doubts of the correctness of the act denounced.

Upon reading your Honour's communication, which indicated that the landing had been effected at San Cayetano, and that they (the negroes) had been taken to the mines, the property of Don José Argudin, I gave orders to the Brigadier Don Joaquim Morales de Rada, the Commissioner for the prevention of the introduction of Bozals in all the territory of the Leeward Department, that, with the utmost haste, he should proceed to the district of Consolacion del Norte, where those mines are, and carry out the most minute investigation for discovery of the act which your Honour had denounced to me, and to apprehend the Bozals in case such landing had been effected.

The result has been, that which I expected from the beginning. Neither have the steamers of Her Majesty commissioned to pursue them found the slightest traces or sign indicative of preparation or realization, nor have the authorities of the district omitted any measure for discovery of their existence; and from all of them I have received advices assuring me that the disembarkation has not been effected.

Not content with this, I have ordered the judicial authority of the

district to draw up the proper summary, which will clear up all that has taken place in this matter.

To this proceeding all that appear to be parties or accomplices in the charge of the disembarkation will be subjected, if it turns out to have been effected; and in order that, in future, they may proceed in such kind of business with safety and efficacy, I have just instructed those authorities that neither the circumstance of the Bozals having cédulas of security (tickets), nor their having their certificates of baptism, shall be sufficient to free the importers or possessors from the consequences of their actions, in case the examination of their tickets, or the search in the parish books, give room for rational suspicions of falsifications or other punishable acts.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 372.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 1.)

(Extract.)

Havana, August 31, 1855.

THE British Vice-Consul writes from Cardenas, a few days ago, that, it being rumoured there that a cargo, consisting of 350 slaves, had been landed at or near Punta de Tejas, a place on the north coast, about forty miles to the eastward, the Lieutenant-Governor had proceeded, with a body of Cavalry, to endeavour to capture the Bozal negroes, and that the steamer "Veloz Cayero" had started up the coast from Cardenas with a view to intercept the said slaver.

The Vice-Consul now informs me that the Lieutenant-Governor and the steamer had returned, and that it was stated at Cardenas the rumour had turned out to be unfounded, as no such disembarkation had taken place.

Mr. Vice-Consul Stone, of San Juan de los Remedios, whose attention I had drawn to some information which had reached me as to an expedition of Bozal negroes expected to arrive in his district about a fortnight before the date of the Cardenas letter, hinted to me the expediency of my drawing the attention of any of the Commanders of Her Majesty's cruisers to that part of the coast between Sagua la Grande and the port of Cardenas, which is precisely where Punta de Tejas is situated; and I am not at all satisfied as to what has been stated that the rumour alluded to was unfounded.

No. 373.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 15.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a communication which I deemed it my duty to address to the Captain-General, in consequence of information which I had received respecting the dispatch of two slavers from the United States, which were there bought and fitted out by a certain Don Jaime Roviroza, and a person of the name of Kraff, agents for Don Lorenzo Pedro and Don Nicholas Martinez de Baldiviezo, who are two very wealthy persons of this city, proprietors of estates in the country.

Those vessels may very soon be expected, with their cargoes, from the coast of Africa; and his Excellency informs me, in his answer, that the vigilance of his subordinates is not for one moment relaxed, but that, in consequence of my communication, he had issued opportune instructions respecting the slavers therein alluded to.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 373.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, September 14, 1855.*

I HAVE received information that an agent, of the name of Don Jaime Roviroso, along with a certain Mr. Kraff, of the United States, have been employed by Don Lorenzo Pedro and Don Nicolas Martinez de Baldiviezo in equipping and dispatching vessels from the United States to the coast of Africa for the purpose of bringing slaves to this island; and that said Roviroso and Kraff had, upwards of two months ago, sent two vessels to the coast of Africa, for account of said Don Lorenzo Pedro and Don Nicolas Martinez de Baldiviezo, both of which are intended to land their cargoes of Bozals (calling at Cayo Bahia de Cadiz) in Bahia de Santa Clara, at La Teja, to be taken to the estate of Baldiviezo la Aurora, or at Ortigosa, to be taken to the estate of Brigadier Falgueras, the Administrador, being already in conformity with the owners of said expeditions, and from the estate of the Brigadier Falgueras the slaves will be passed to that of Don Lorenzo Pedro, near Bahia Honda.

I hasten to communicate to your Excellency this information, for such purposes as may be deemed expedient for the capture of the parties interested, as well as that of the two expeditions, in case they shall attempt to violate the laws and the existing Treaties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 373.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, September 17, 1855.

IN answer to the note of your Honour of the 14th of this month, in which you communicate to me the intelligence you have relative to various expeditions of slaves which, for some time past, have been dispatched for this island on account of the persons whom you mention, and whose disembarkation is to take place at the places indicated; I have to state to your Honour that the vigilance of my subordinates has not ceased for one moment, and in consequence of your communication I have given them the opportune instructions.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 374.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 15.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 19, 1855.

MR. SMITH, the British Vice-Consul at Trinidad, informs me that a slaver, said to have been brig-rigged and under American colours,* had been hovering off that part of the coast of Cuba for some time; but that the master or supercargo had been unable to find any person at Trinidad, or at Sancti Spiritu, who would act as the consignee of the slaves by said vessel. It appears by Mr. Smith's letters that the slaver was in great want of provisions, but that at last a supply was obtained, and that she then proceeded to the eastward.

The Vice-Consul now reports that she was seen at anchor off Santa Cruz, and that several very emaciated Bozal negroes having been picked up in the woods thereabouts, it is supposed she had effected a landing.

* Said to have had about 500 slaves on board.

I have addressed the Captain-General, requesting, for your Lordship's information, such particulars as may have reached the Government upon this subject; Mr. Smith having learnt that the supplies which were furnished to the slaver had been sent off to her from Casilda, the port of Trinidad, which showed a want of vigilance on the part of the authorities: but I have not yet been favoured with any reply by his Excellency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 375.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1855.

I HAVE to inform you that I transmitted to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid copies of your despatch of the 21st of April, on the subject of vessels fitting out in Cuba for the Slave Trade, and of your despatches of the 16th April and 13th May respectively, reporting a recent landing of 600 negroes near Bahia Honda, and commenting on the insufficiency of the powers granted to the Captain-General of Cuba for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

And I now transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying copies of two despatches* from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, inclosing copies of two notes which he had received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in reply to the representations which I instructed Lord Howden to make to his Excellency, on the subject of your despatches above referred to.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 376.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 10th and 11th of August, reporting that 510 Bozal negroes were landed at San Cayetano on or about the 5th of that month: and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having on that occasion pointed out to the Captain-General that it was manifest that the powers delegated to him by the Spanish Government were insufficient for the repression of the Slave Trade.

I inclose at the same time, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid upon this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 377.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 29th August,‡ and a gold medal which Her Majesty's Government, being desirous to manifest their approbation of the humane and meritorious conduct of Captain Estolt, of the Spanish coasting passage-boat "Tayaba," in saving the crew of the ship "Isabel," of Liverpool, under the circumstances detailed in my despatch, have awarded to him.

* Nos. 295 and 296.

† No. 297.

‡ No. 360.

I have to state to your Lordship that Captain Estolt is now in Spain, but will return to Havana by the mail-boat of December next, when I propose to present the medal through the Spanish marine authorities, as being the mode best calculated to give publicity to the circumstances of the case, and that in the meantime I have written to Captain Estolt at Barcelona apprising him of what is waiting his return to Havana.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 378.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 29th August,* instructing me to take an opportunity of expressing to the Captain-General the regret of Her Majesty's Government that so salutary an arrangement as that which was made in the first instance† with regard to the registration of immigrants should not have been carried out, and that, by the orders recently issued by his Excellency, a longer period than twelve months should be allowed to elapse between each registration.

I have the honour of inclosing, herewith, to your Lordship, a copy of a communication which, on the 24th ultimo, I addressed to General Concha upon this subject, to which as yet I have not received any answer or acknowledgment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 378.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Translation.)

Havana, September 24, 1855.

THE late Mr. Backhouse, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge, having transmitted to Her Majesty's Government a copy of the Regulations, dated the 5th of June last, which were issued by your Excellency, providing for the carrying into effect the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, 1854, respecting immigrants, and laying down rules for the complete registration of that class of labourers; Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction this proof of the Captain-General Don José de la Concha's desire to carry out the humane intentions of his Government towards the immigrants, but the Earl of Clarendon, at the same time, observes, that the provision of the Decree, as to the period of registration, has not been adhered to, as the registration which ought to have been made in January last will not take place till the 1st of September next, and the next following one not until November 1856; whereas it is expressly provided in the original Decree, that the registers should be filled up in the month of January of each year: and his Lordship has instructed me to express to your Excellency the regret of Her Majesty's Government that so salutary an arrangement as the one which was made in the first instance should not have been carried out, and that, by your Excellency's orders, subsequently issued, a longer period than twelve months should be allowed to elapse between each registration of immigrants.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

* No. 361.

† Viz., by the Royal Spanish Decree of 22nd March, 1854.

No. 379.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

(Extract.)

Havana, October 2, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 31st August, transmitting, for my remarks, a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Mr. Otway, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid, inclosing a note addressed to him on the 14th July by General Zavala, the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to the communications upon the subject of the landings of slaves referred to in my despatch of the 24th of November last year, which Lord Howden addressed to his Excellency's predecessor.

I have read over General Zavala's note, and I observe that, according to what has been officially communicated to the Supreme Government by that of this island, it is made to appear that only 750 Bozals were landed at Nuevitas, instead of two cargoes making a total of 1,200, as by me denounced to the Spanish authorities, and reported in due time to your Lordship.

I have to state to your Lordship that there can be no doubt as to the information I had with regard to those expeditions: but as some of the authorities both at Nuevitas and Puerto Principe were in the adventure, means were devised to cover them, and General Mansano's efforts to bring them to justice were frustrated.

These cargoes of slaves, I have reason to believe, were part of the results of a company, raised in shares of 1,200 dollars each, and confided to the execution of a certain Don José Planes, who had the vessels bought and fitted out in the United States. Another of his cargoes was that which is referred to in my same despatch as having been reported off the coast of the province of Cuba, by Mr. Acting Consul Beattie, and which would have made up the 1,800 of my said despatch: it was therein stated they had been safely landed at Ensenada de los Cochinos, but I have lately had reason to believe that those unfortunate victims were ultimately landed at "los Cayos de las doce leguas," where they nearly all perished for want of food; 100 only of them, who survived, were purchased at a very low price by people of the name of Goicoechea and Fornes, from the neighbouring mainland of this island.

The Messrs. Martinez, of this city, at that time, had a cargo landed at Puntas Nuevas, of whom 25 were captured by the Government officers, and the remainder, 475, were all but publicly sold at the "Ingenio de Primelles;" besides which, Don José Planes had a cargo which, until lately, I never heard of, but which, it appears, was landed at Jucaro. The slaves were hidden in the woods and thickets, and guarded by the interested, and people connected with them. It is said that Planes' agent, Bajes, took 50 of them clandestinely to his own place; that the place of their concealment was beset by the people of the country, for the purpose of stealing all they could, and in which they succeeded to some extent; the result, for those reasons, having been most disastrous to the company.

No. 380.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 25th ultimo, in consequence of information which I have received as to slavers expected to arrive on this coast, and your Lordship will observe how well founded my information has turned out to be, by his Excellency's answer of the 1st instant, by which it appears that the cargo of slaves first alluded to in my

denouncement has already arrived, and their landing been safely effected near Punta de Cartas.

My experience of the district of Pinar del Rio and the lawless character of its inhabitants is such, that I have very little hope, either of the capture of the Bozals introduced, or of the punishment of any one connected with their introduction.

It is a repetition of the old story: all the slaves that are brought to the coast of Cuba continue to be landed; in some way or other the vigilance of the authorities is neutralised, for I am sure that it would be as impossible to land 500 filibusters as it is easy to disembark that number of slaves; and until the local Governors and Chiefs of Partidos are made responsible for such constant breaches of the law and of the Treaties, I have no hope that it will be otherwise.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 380.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, September 25, 1855.

I HAVE received information that a schooner slaver is every moment expected on the south side of the island, and that she will attempt to land her cargo of Bozals somewhere near Punta de Cartas or Coloma.

I have also information that a brig slaver, said to be called the "*Ascarate*," is hourly expected on the coast from Bahia Honda to the Murillo, and that the Assessor of Guanajay is the party with whom the arrangements have been made by the interested in both these instances.

I hasten to communicate this intelligence to your Excellency for such purpose as may be deemed expedient; and I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 380.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 1, 1855.

IN view of your Honour's letter of the 25th ultimo, informing me that a slaver brig call "*Ascarate*," was expected on the coast between Bahi Honda and Morillo, I have to state to you that having ordered to come to this city the Brigadier Chief of the Staff Don Joaquim Morales de Rada, commissioned with the prevention of the Slave Trade in the Vuelta de Abajo, I gave him the necessary instructions, in consequence of which I have just received from said officer the following telegraphic message from Guanajay, and which I transcribe to your Honour, in answer to your said letter:

"On my arrival at this place I received the news of a landing of negroes near Punta de Cartas. I am going to Mariel to embark in the steamer '*Lez6*.' I hope, if that news is true, Commandant Gándara will have captured the Bozals."

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 381.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 5, 1855.

I BEG leave to acquaint your Lordship that I have this day received a despatch from Mr. Consul Forbes, dated at Santiago de Cuba the 27th ultimo, in which he informs me that Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Medea*"

had communicated at that port on the 17th, and that Commander Phillimore had reported to him that Her Majesty's sloop under his command had fallen "in with and spoken an English brig proceeding from some port in Jamaica, where the master had landed two seamen, the one a Spaniard, and the other a South American, who formed part of the crew of a brig under Brazilian colours, which had succeeded in landing a cargo of 400 African slaves about 80 miles distant from Manzanillo, on or about the 7th ultimo (September), and that the master of the English brig had received 500 dollars from each of said passengers for landing them on Jamaica."

It is to be regretted that this account is not more particular, or that Consul Forbes has not obtained the names of the English brig and of the master, as well as the name and description of the slaver brig, the place where the two passengers joined the English brig, their names and the place where they were landed in Jamaica, as well as the port or place on the coast of Africa where the slaves were taken on board by the Brazilian brig, &c. As it is, there seems to me to be little doubt that the cargo of slaves landed by the Brazilian brig referred to is the same respecting which this Government has some information, and have captured some 25 Bozals, as well as the papers of the slaver in the Portuguese language, which they discovered in possession of a person of the name of Seji, or Segi, who was arrested at Santa Cruz, accused of being concerned in the illegal introduction of slaves in the district of Puerto Principe.

I have made a communication of the circumstances, as stated by Captain Phillimore, to the Captain-General, as they may be of some importance in the trial of Seji by eliciting from him information which he might more easily withhold, were the authorities in ignorance of the nature of the expedition in which he has most probably been engaged, as to which, until the present, they had known nothing whatever.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 382.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

(Extract.)

Havana, October 19, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General respecting the slavers on the south side of this island near Mansanillo, which was given rise to by the communication which I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship, in my despatch of the 5th instant, I had addressed to his Excellency in consequence of what Mr. Consul Forbes had learnt from Commander Phillimore relative to the two passengers belonging to a slaver who had paid 1,000 dollars for their passages to Jamaica on board of an English brig, which was afterwards fallen in with at sea by the "Medea."

Inclosure 1 in No. 382.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, October 6, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I have received intelligence from Her Majesty's Consul at Cuba, to the effect that Commander Phillimore, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Medea," has called at the port of Santiago, and had informed Mr. Consul Forbes that he had fallen in with an English brig at sea, and the master of which informed Captain Phillimore that he had landed two persons, the one a Spaniard, and the other a South American, at Jamaica, who formed part of the crew of a brig slaver, under Brazilian colours, which had landed a cargo of Bozal

negroes on the 7th ultimo (September), at a place eighty miles distant from Manzanillo, in this island.

I hasten to give this information to your Excellency, as I presume the slaver in question was the same which was alluded to by your Excellency as having landed her cargo in the district of Puerto Principe, and connected with which some papers were seized, in possession of a person who was supposed to have been employed in, or as an agent of, that expedition, the papers being in the Portuguese language; and I shall be glad if the fact (which has been discovered in so unexpected a manner) of the slaver having been under Brazilian colours, should be aiding in eliciting the truth, upon the examination of the party implicated, and detained under that accusation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 382.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 15, 1855.

IN attention to the communication of your Honour, of the 6th of this month, in which you inform me of the information which, through the Commander of the steamer "Medea," you have had, concerning the disembarkation of negroes, which took place, according to your information, in the district of Puerto Principe, I can merely reply to your Honour, that I am waiting for the proceedings which, in consequence, on the subject, must have been instituted by the authorities of those jurisdictions, and that, according to the merits that may appear by the results, I shall proceed as justice may dictate.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 382.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, October 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 15th instant, in answer to that which I addressed to your Excellency on the 6th, relative to the intelligence which I had received from Her Majesty's Consul at Cuba, as to what had been reported by Commander Phillimore, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Medea," of the two passengers who had been carried to Jamaica by an English merchant brig, afterwards fallen in with at sea by the "Medea," and which two passengers had belonged to a slaver under Brazilian colours, which had, on the 7th ultimo, landed her cargo at a place eighty miles from Manzanillo.

I have now to state to your Excellency that I have received information from Manzanillo, by which it appears that a launch had brought to that place, about the 6th of September, twelve men, who stated themselves to have been the mate and crew of an American brig called the "Dolphin," 178 tons, belonging to Philadelphia, which, they stated, had been wrecked at a place (which is not named) thirty-seven miles from Manzanillo, on the 30th of August. All those men had considerable sums of money, as much as 1,600 dollars each, some of them more than that amount; and as they reported that the captain had died at the place where the vessel was wrecked, and she had no other cargo than eighty tons of ballast from Aspinwall, the fact of those men having so much money was very suspicious, but there does not appear to have been any investigation, excepting their declarations, which were taken through the medium of the public interpreter, who, it was known at Manzanillo afterwards, had had money belonging to one of the said men in his possession, to the amount of twenty-two ounces, respecting which an arrangement was made, because he (the interpreter) had denied that he

had the said money; and it does not appear that the patron of the launch in which they had arrived at Manzanillo had been subjected to any judicial examination, which might have led to the discovery of the truth in this very curious and suspicious affair.

Upon the other hand, I have received information from Santa Cruz, that the number of Bozal negroes landed in that neighbourhood, in the beginning of last month, was 490; that the vessel was a brigantine under American colours; that the consignees were Don José Llamas y Foumer; that the former introduced the Bozals into Puerto Principe; and that he met with no opposition from the authorities, who, it is supposed, were rather in favour of the contraband.

Considering it to be my duty, I hasten to communicate this intelligence to your Excellency, for such purposes as may be deemed advisable, in the investigation which is going on under your Excellency's orders in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 383.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

(Extract.)

Havana, October 20, 1855.

I HAVE to acquaint your Lordship that a cargo of Bozal negroes, consisting, as I understand, of 400 or 500, was landed in the jurisdiction of Cabanas during the night of the 15th or 16th instant, and I suppose it to have been that which I had heard was expected at Rio de la Dominica, belonging to Don Lorenzo Pedro, whose arrangements were said to have been made with the authorities thereabouts for their safe introduction.

I lost no time in denouncing this infraction of the law and of the Treaty to the Captain-General, who, your Lordship will perceive by the copy of our correspondence which I have the honour of inclosing herewith, has forthwith dispatched the Brigadier Morales de Rada to investigate the matter.

Inclosure 1 in No. 383.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, October 19, 1855.

I HAVE just heard that a cargo of Bozal negroes was landed near to Cabanas (I presume at Rio Dominica, where I understand that a cargo was expected belonging to Don Lorenzo Pedro) during the night of Monday or Tuesday last.

The vessel which brought the slaves above alluded to was, most likely, a suspicious-looking brig which passed this harbour on the day previous, but did not show any colours.

I request the favour of your Excellency informing me whether any intelligence has reached this Government relative to this disembarkation of slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 383.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 20, 1855.

I HAVE not the slightest intelligence of the disembarkation of Bozals in Cabanas, near the River Dominica, of which your Honour is pleased to treat in your communication of yesterday, received this morning, nor do previous circumstances permit me to believe that the negroes who have been seen thereabouts could proceed from a new disembarkation at that place; but be it as it may, I give orders that the Brigadier-in-chief of the head staff, Don Joaquim Morales de Rada, sets out this moment to inquire into the certainty of the matter, and to proceed accordingly, and this very night the said Chief will be at the Dominica, and the Lieutenant-Governor of the district shall have received suitable orders.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 384.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 13.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 22, 1855.

A NEGRO man who stated his name to be Cuaco Ambrister, a native of Nassau, New Providence, presented himself at my office to claim the protection of Her Majesty's Government as a free British subject unjustly and illegally sold into slavery in this island.

Cuaco states that he was born in the family of a certain Mr. John Ambrister at Nassau, and that when he was grown up he sailed with said Ambrister on board a schooner called the "Delight;" that the schooner having been lost, he accompanied a sister of Ambrister and her husband, Dr. Anderson, from Nassau to Baracoa in this island, as their servant, and resided with them as such for a long time. That Dr. Anderson died four or five years ago, and that about a year, more or less, afterwards, his widow, Mrs. Anderson, having determined to return to the Bahamas, which she has since done, sold this man, Cuaco, into slavery, as well as a mulatto boy named Jem, also free, and a native of Nassau, who came with her and her husband from thence to Baracoa.

Cuaco states that he was sold to a Frenchman, M. Solet, who resold him to Don Miguelito Orgé or Orgier, and this last, about two months ago, sent the poor fellow here for sale consigned to Don Jose Monsó, with whom he now is.

Jem is said to have been sold to a certain Mr. John Hartmann, of Baracoa, who has him still.

Under these circumstances I have requested his Excellency the Captain-General to have Cuaco and Jem placed in deposit to await the result of the inquiries and proofs from Nassau which I have applied for to establish their free condition, and to redeem them from the horrors of slavery, to which, if Cuaco's statement is true, they have been feloniously consigned by the said Mrs. Anderson.

I have the honour of submitting, herewith inclosed to your Lordship, copies of my letters to the Captain-General and to his Excellency the Governor of Her Majesty's Colony of the Bahamas, and I hope that, if Cuaco's story turns out to be true, the proofs will soon be forthcoming to establish his claim, and that of the boy Jem, to the blessings of freedom, and lead to the conviction and punishment of the woman who so infamously placed them here in slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 384.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, October 20, 1855.*

IT has come to my knowledge that a negro man, belonging to Nassau, whose name is Cuaco Ambrister, was brought to Baracoa, in this island, from New Providence, by a certain Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, as their servant.

The said Dr. and Mrs. Anderson also brought with them, as their servant, a mulatto boy, whose name was Jem.

Some four or five years ago Dr. Anderson died at Baracoa, and about a year, or a little more, afterwards, Mrs. Anderson returned to her family at Nassau, she being a sister of Mr. John Ambrister, of that place, in whose house the negro Cuaco was born; but before she went away, she sold Cuaco and Jem, they both being free, the former to a certain M. Solet, who resold him to Don Manuel Orgé or Orgier, at Baracoa, who has, about two months ago, sent Cuaco for sale, to the care of Don José Monsó, Calle de Justiz, No. 2, in this city, where he is at present, and claims his freedom, of which he has been unjustly and illegally deprived by Mrs. Anderson.

The mulatto boy Jem was sold to Mr. John Hartmann, of Baracoa, in whose possession he now is, or was two months ago, unjustly and illegally sold into slavery by the same Mrs. Anderson.

I shall transmit a statement of this affair to the Governor of the Bahama Islands by the earliest opportunity, requesting that an investigation may be made of the circumstances, and, if the man Cuaco's statement turns out to be true, that Mrs. Anderson may be proceeded against with all the rigour of the law; and I shall require that proofs be sent to me with the least possible delay, as to the condition of the man Cuaco and the boy Jem at the time of their leaving Nassau, as well as that persons to whom both were known should be sent here to identify them before the competent tribunal. In the meantime, I request that your Excellency will be pleased to order the negro Cuaco now here, and the boy Jem at Baracoa or elsewhere in possession of Mr. John Hartmann, of that place, to be placed in deposit, to await the evidence from Nassau, for which I shall apply to Her Majesty's authorities of the Bahama Islands.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 384.

Consul-General Crawford to the Governor of the Bahamas.

A COLOURED person, who stated himself to be a British subject, native of Nassau, by name Cuaco Ambrister, presented himself at my office this morning, claiming protection; and declared that he was born in the house of a certain Mr. John Ambrister, in the Island of New Providence; and that he, when grown to be a lad, accompanied said Ambrister on board his schooner the "Delight," of which said John Ambrister sailed as master; that the schooner was lost, and that he, the said Cuaco, then went into the service of a sister of said Mr. Ambrister, who married a certain Dr. Anderson, and that he, Cuaco, came with said Dr. and Mrs. Anderson to Baracoa, in this island, a number of years ago, and was their house-servant. That Dr. Anderson died four, or five, or more years since at Baracoa, and his widow, about a year or so, more or less, after his death, left that place, and returned to Nassau; but that, before she went away, she sold Cuaco and another servant she had, viz., a mulatto boy, also belonging to the Bahamas, named Jem, into slavery, they being free, and in no manner of way her property. That the said Mrs. Anderson sold Cuaco to a Frenchman, called Solet, who resold him to a certain Don Manuelito Orgé or Orgier; and that by him he, Cuaco, was sent here to

Havana for sale, and consigned to a person called Don José Monsó, where he now is, and has not been sold, because they ask 800 dollars for him, and no purchaser has offered for him at that price.

Cuaco declares that the boy Jem was also sold by Mrs. Anderson to a certain Mr. John Hartmann, who had him as a slave up to the time that Cuaco left Baracoa, two months ago.

And further, the said Cuaco states that his parents are both dead, but that he has several brothers and sisters alive at Nassau; that one of his brothers is called Frank, another Abraham, and another John; his sisters, one is Charlotte, and another Mary, who he says will be found without difficulty.

With regard to the boy Jem, I am informed by Cuaco that his father is dead, but that his mother was alive when he left Nassau; whether she is living still, he does not know, and he thinks that Jem has no brothers or sisters, but the Ambrister family must be able to give information about him.

I have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to order inquiry into the matter, and as soon as possible obtain and forward to me the proofs of the man Cuaco Ambrister and the boy Jem's condition, showing that they were free, and that Mrs. Anderson had no right to deal with them as slaves; for even if they had originally been slaves according to the Act 46 Geo. III, c. 52 (1807), their having removed from the Bahamas without special leave of Her Majesty's Government operated their forfeiture to the Crown, and consequently their liberation from slavery; but with regard to both Cuaco and Jem, especially the latter, their ages prove that they must have been taken from Nassau after they were absolutely free; and so Mrs. Anderson may, if the offence is proved against her, have been guilty of a very grave offence, subjecting her to a severe, but at the same time a well-merited, punishment.

My object is, as your Excellency will easily perceive, to obtain judicial proofs, which must all come certified by the Spanish Consul, that Cuaco and Jem were both free, and consequently were unjustly and illegally sold into slavery; but besides those proofs, it will be necessary that persons shall come here who can identify them, before I can redeem them from the condition in which they have been placed by Mrs. Anderson.

In the meantime, I have requested that they be both placed in deposit to await the evidences of their freedom, which I hope to receive from your Excellency with the least possible delay, and which, if Cuaco's statement is true, I am induced to hope there will be no great difficulty in obtaining.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 385.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 28, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th ultimo, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Captain-General respecting the information you had received of the proceedings of the authorities at Manzanillo, with regard to certain sailors supposed to have formed the crew of a slaver which had landed her cargo; and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

No. 386.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 28, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, respecting the case of the negro Cuaco, who informed you that he and another negro named Jem, natives of Nassau, had been illegally sold into slavery by a former employer who had brought them to Cuba; and I have to inform you that I approve the letters which you addressed on this subject to the Captain-General, and to the Governor of the Bahamas.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 387.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 25, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 1st instant, transmitting, for my information, a copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the shipment, in March last, of 350 slaves on board of an American schooner, from near the mouth of the River Congo, destined for this island.

That cargo, I have no doubt, has long ago arrived on some part of the coast of this island, and has most probably been safely landed, and the slaves introduced, as I have no specific information to enable me to conjecture that the schooner alluded to by Her Majesty's Commissioners was either of the vessels which landed their cargoes about the period when it would be reasonable to expect said slaver might have arrived on this coast; but your Lordship must be well aware that there are numerous expeditions of slaves, which are safely introduced into Cuba, of which we never obtain any intelligence whatever, and it is quite certain that all which arrive are landed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 388.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, October 31, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the inclosed copy of a letter which I have received from the Captain-General, in answer to that which I addressed to his Excellency, upon the subject of the pirates or slavers who were at Manzanillo, and the landings of slaves near that place and Santa Cruz, a copy of which I did myself the honour of laying before your Lordship, in the correspondence which I had had with him upon that subject.

It appears that General Concha has been pleased to avail himself of the information transmitted by Mr. Hall, for such purposes as may be convenient, in the investigation of the affair at Manzanillo; but his Excellency complains of my admitting too easily the denouncements which are made to me, affecting the characters of the officers in command, who feel themselves highly offended thereby.

I would respectfully state to your Lordship that those officers within whose districts of command cargoes of Bozals are landed, ought surely to be held responsible themselves, unless they can transfer the culpability to some one of their subordinates; and when I can most safely assure your

Lordship that such is the vigilance of the Lieutenant-Governors and their subordinates, everywhere in the island, that it is, I may say, impossible for a white man to introduce himself into the island, without being detected, it is but fair they should answer, and be made answerable, as to how hundreds and hundreds of negroes are introduced into the island, contrary to the laws and to the Treaties, with the greatest facility, and are seldom, if ever, of late, either detected or captured.

I submit to your Lordship, that when the officers under his Excellency's command pursue a line of conduct which affords no room for suspicion, and that the slaves which are from day to day arriving, are either captured, or hindered from being landed, they may justly complain of imputations such as now are unavoidably applied to them, from time to time, when slaves are landed, or are reported to have been landed, in their districts. Our justification for such imputations, whilst the Traffic is being carried on as it is, and has been for some time past, "that we know by what means it is carried on and continued," cannot but be admitted.

Wrong information sometimes reaches Her Majesty's officers (and of this every advantage is taken to deny the fact), and then the feelings of the chief of a district are wounded, even if it should so happen that the breach of the law and the violation of the Treaty denounced did in reality take place, not at the place stated, but in the district or command adjoining; for to such mistakes we are liable, because the informations we receive may not be precise, either as to time or place, however correct they may be in general; and the difficulty we experience in getting information to be relied upon has also to be borne in mind.

There surely has been a cargo, if not two cargoes, of Bozals landed in the district of Puerto Principe, of which I had a right to complain. One of the two may have been in the district of Bayamo, but that is best known to his Excellency, for I have not denounced it. The authorities at Manzanillo surely did not proceed as they ought to have done with the men brought there, who stated they belonged to the American brigantine "Dolphin," and who were known to have had such large sums of money. The affair of the Lieutenant-Governor of Remedios is treated of in my previous number; and as to the denial of my denouncement of the landing which took place lately at Rio de la Dominica, I had my information from him who got his from an eye-witness; and the Government inquiry was not set about until seven or eight days afterwards.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 388.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba, October 18, 1855.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 382.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 388.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, October 30, 1855.

I HAVE received your Honour's official letter of the 18th of this month, in relation to the intelligence which you communicate to me respecting disembarkation of Bozals in Puerto Principe and Santa Cruz, as well as the other matters which you mention in same.

In answer, I shall say to your Honour, that in accordance with what I have already stated to you, in the first-mentioned place proceedings are being carried on by the Alcalde Mayor; that there are several persons in prison, and some negroes detained, who appeared to be Bozals; and that the said proceedings are being gone on with the utmost rigour and activity.

Only for what may be useful, I will send notice of the information which your Honour communicates to me relative to the disembarkation of Americans in Manzanillo, in order that the corresponding investigations may be gone into.

In directing to your Honour this answer to your already-mentioned official letter of the 18th, I must call your attention, by saying to you that it is very painful to me that you should so easily admit accusations against the authorities established in different parts of this island, for, notwithstanding that these accusations may fall to the ground, the reputation and honour of worthy and respectable persons who have complied strictly with their duties are thus injured.

In this position the Lieutenant-Governors of Puerto Principe, Bayamo, Manzanillo, and Remedios, now find themselves, who have proceeded with all the zeal and activity which could be required of them by this Government, and even exceeding in their duty, if possible, on account of their being Chiefs of tested reputation, they understand how easily is offended on that point the honour of persons holding employments. Thus it happens that these persons in employment create for themselves personal enemies, for no other cause than the strictness and loyalty which they observe in their operations.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 389.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3.)

My Lord,

Havana, November 3, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 22nd ultimo, respecting the negro Cuaco Ambrister, and the mulatto lad Jem, who, as it has been stated by the former, were sold into slavery at Baracoa, in this island, by Mrs. Anderson, of Nassau, New Providence, the Captain-General has replied to my letter, stating that it is not the practice to deposit, or to take and hold in deposit, such persons as Cuaco and Jem, but to exact security for their appearance when called for, and that that is all that can be done until I can present the proofs from Nassau.

Under these circumstances, I have considered the delay which would be unavoidable were we to abide the course of the mail hence, *via* San Thomas, thence to the Bahamas by sailing vessels, and back here by the same route, which would certainly occupy two, and more probably three months, during which period these poor creatures would be exposed to the horrors of slavery, perhaps in its most cruel form, because of their having claimed their freedom.

I have therefore requested Commander Napier, of Her Majesty's sloop of war the "Daring," to proceed to Nassau with my despatch to Governor Sir Alexander Bannerman, and the "Daring" will sail upon this service in the course of to-day, by which means I hope to receive the result of the investigations from thence in two or three weeks, which I hope will be approved by your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 390.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 3.)

(Extract.)

Havana, November 9, 1855.

I HAVE to report to your Lordship another most glaring infraction of the Treaty for the suppression of Slave Trade, which took place on one of the last days of the past month of October, on the south coast of this

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island, district or jurisdiction of Villa Clara, at the Granadillo, or San Lazaro del Granadillo.

This vessel was the brigantine, formerly under American colours, called the "*Midas*," an old trader to this port from New Orleans, 186 tons register, and the number of Bozals landed was 516.

It is said that their cédulas were delivered ready for their arrival, and cost the parties interested 5,000 dollars, or about 10 dollars a-head, which was paid to the officer who has charge of the issue of those documents; and it is also said that the disembarkation was effected at a place where the Escribano of the Government of Villa Clara has a store and adjoining property.

It is therefore not surprising that the Alcalde Mayor of said Villa Clara, who had gone to the coast in order to investigate this matter, had returned, unable, as usual, to make any discoveries, or obtain any proofs of such landing having taken place.

But of the fact there is not the smallest doubt. The slaves were sold on the spot where they were landed, at from 16 to 24 ounces each, and they are offered here at 28 ounces, one lot not being less than 120. Besides which, I know from persons entirely to be credited, that the Master and Mate of the "*Midas*" came to this city after they had effected the landing of their cargo of Bozals, that they stated they had burnt the vessel, and that they are already departed for the United States.

Your Lordship has in this a new proof of the conduct of the Spanish officers in this most scandalous affair. There was no seeking of an uninhabited part of the coast; there seems to have been but little or no secrecy; the parties interested were provided with the cédulas, awaiting the slaver's arrival; 516 Bozal negroes are landed without any difficulty or opposition on the part of the authorities; many of them are sold on the spot; the vessel is set fire to or sunk as soon as she is divested of her miserable cargo; the slaver captain and the mate cross the island, which they could not have done without having their passes for that purpose; and I believe I may securely state to your Lordship that more than 100 of the Bozals brought by the "*Midas*" are already in the city of Havana, being offered for sale. Is it, then, to be wondered at that the Slave Trade continues to be carried on, when there are such facilities?

I repeat to your Lordship, that every slave which leaves the coast of Africa, and arrives on the coast of the Island of Cuba, is sure to be landed, if he survives the voyage.

No. 391.

Consul-General Crauford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received December 17.*)

(Extract.)

Havana, November 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 26th ultimo,* transmitting the copy of a despatch addressed by your Lordship to Lord Howden, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, upon the subject of my despatches of the 10th and 11th of August, reporting that 510 Bozal negroes were landed at San Cayetano, on or about the 5th of that month. The result of General Concha's investigation of that matter was, that as Brigadier Morales de Rada, who was sent upon that service, could discover no traces of the negroes, his Excellency came to the conclusion that no landing took place at that place, or at that time. My information, however, was so positive that I have not the least doubt of the fact of their introduction.

No. 392.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received December 17.*)

(Extract.)

Havana, November 27, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 9th instant, I beg leave to inclose herewith to your Lordship a copy of correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General upon the subject of the disembarkation of Bozal negroes therein alluded to, which took place at Granadillo, a place on the north side (not on the south side) of this island, in the jurisdiction of Villa Clara.

Your Lordship will observe that his Excellency admits that my information may be correct, and that he had sent his adjutant, Colonel Llorente, to investigate the matter.

My advices from Villa Clara are to the 22nd instant; Colonel Llorente had been there some days, but my letters do not mention that he had been able to make any discoveries in the matter as to which he is commissioned by the Captain-General.

Inclosure 1 in No. 392.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, November 12, 1855.*

IT has come to my knowledge that 516 Bozal negroes have been landed in the jurisdiction of Villa Clara, at the "embarcadero San Lazaro, surgidero del Granadillo," and I understand that they are offered for sale in this city, duly provided with cedulas, &c.

The vessel which was called the "*Midas*," 186 tons, was, it is said, either sunk or burnt as soon as the slaves were got on shore, and the master and mate passed through Havana on their way to the United States, for which destination they embarked from this port a few days ago.

I request the favour of your Excellency's informing me whether any of the Bozals of this expedition have been captured, or anything ascertained by the efforts of the corresponding authorities, which may lead to the detection and punishment of those who have been engaged in this flagrant infraction of the law and of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, so as to enable me to report accurately upon this subject to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 392.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, November 14, 1855.

I HAVE received your Honour's communication of the 10th of this month, in which you announce to me that at a place called the Granadillo, jurisdiction of Remedios, there has just been a disembarkation of Bozals. With the intelligence that the occurrence might be true which your Honour denounces to me, I have directed my Aide-de-camp, Colonel Don Hipolito Llorente, to set out, as he has already done, for said place, for the purpose of drawing up the necessary proceedings, and according to the result obtained, my subordinate authorities will proceed according to the existing laws.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 393.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st of October, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the disembarkation of negroes at Puerto Principe and Santa Cruz, and I have to acquaint you that I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid to state to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, that Her Majesty's Government concur in the observations made in your above-named despatch, upon the complaint brought forward by General Concha in his letter to you of the 20th of October, as to the readiness which he alleges is shown by you in giving credit to accusations injurious to the honour and reputation of the authorities of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 394.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo, reporting your proceedings on behalf of the slaves Cuaco and Jem, who have claimed their freedom; and I have to inform you that I approve your having requested the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Daring" to convey your despatch upon the subject to the Governor of the Bahamas, in order to avoid delay.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 395.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1855.

IN a despatch which I have lately received from Mr. Lettsom, &c.* he states that he had been informed that the condition of the Yucatan labourers in Cuba is "truly pitiable;" and I have to desire that you will make every inquiry in your power, and report to me what is the actual state of these unfortunate Indians.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 396.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Earl of Chichester, requesting that measures may be taken in order to discover and send to England an emancipated African named John Baptist Dasalu, now in Cuba, in whose fate the Church Missionary Society take great interest.

You will find in the papers which accompany Lord Chichester's letter such particulars as the Church Missionary Society are enabled to furnish

respecting the man in question, and I have to instruct you to use your best endeavours to trace him; and should you succeed in doing so, you will take such steps as may be practicable and necessary in order to enable him to leave Cuba, and you will provide him with a passage to this country, the expense of which will be borne by the Society.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 396.

The Earl of Chichester to Lord Wodehouse.

Dear Lord Wodehouse,

Stanmer, December 24, 1855.

I AM requested by the Church Missionary Society to transmit the inclosed.

We hope that Lord Clarendon will forward it to Her Majesty's Consul at Havana, desiring him to make inquiries for the man to whom it refers. As the Society is prepared to pay the cost of his passage to Africa, I trust that there will be no difficulty in granting this favour, or much trouble to the Consul in effecting our object.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) CHICHESTER

Inclosure 2 in No. 396.

Statement respecting a Liberated African, or Emancipado, now in the Havana.

FROM the information received by a party of emancipados, who have lately passed through England on their return to Africa, it appears that there still remains at the Havana a negro, named John Baptist Dasalu, in whom the Church Missionary Society feels much interest, as he was one of the early converts of the missionaries of the society, and was taken prisoner by the Dahomians in their invasion of Abbeokuta, and by them sold into slavery.

Admiral Bruce and Captain Heseltine, while on that station, made every effort with the King of Dahomey to procure his release, but without effect.

It now appears that the slaver conveying him to Cuba was captured by a British man-of-war and condemned at Havana, where he was liberated as an emancipado under the Treaty with Spain.

The Church Missionary Society are willing to engage for the payment of his passage to England, if Her Majesty's Consul at the Havana will be good enough to procure him a passage on reasonable terms and send him to England as soon as the weather is more favourable for his arrival in this climate.

A letter from the Rev. S. Crowther, now in Africa, respecting Dasalu, and a letter dictated by Dasalu himself, are annexed, which will, it is hoped, enable the Consul to find out and identify the individual.

(Signed) H. VENN,
Secretary to Church Missionary Society.

Church Missionary House, December 21, 1855.

Inclosure 3 in No. 396.

The Rev. S. Crowther to the Rev. H. Venn.

Rev. and dear Sir,

Lagos, October 9, 1855.

THE emancipados have arrived and were safely landed. I have also received the letter of introduction given to them by our Abbeokuta convert, John Baptist Dasalu, who was carried away and sold into foreign slavery by the Dahomians, in spite of every attempt made first by

Captain Heseltine, R.N., and afterwards by Rear-Admiral Bruce and other friends who interested themselves in his liberation at any price.

It appears from the statement of the emancipados, that the vessel which was conveying Dasalu across the Atlantic was captured somewhere near Cuba, and the slaves were liberated in Havana under the care of the Spanish Government. If this statement be correct, and as all our Church members, no less than ourselves, are still so much interested in Dasalu's liberation, if it were not asking too much, may I beg your kind favour to represent John Baptist Dasalu's case to the authorities in England, and if possible to procure his restoration to his family and country?

The emancipados assured me that if the matter be properly represented to Her Majesty's Consul at Havana, that there would be no difficulty in his restoration.

(Signed) SAML. CROWTHER.

P.S.—I inclose Dasalu's letter of introduction written in Spanish.

No. 397.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 19, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of June last, in which you stated that you had reason to believe that 3,000 or 4,000 emancipados had been made to supply the places of an equal number of slaves who had died, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Lord Howden, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, to a representation which Lord Howden addressed to him upon the above-mentioned subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 398.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 30, 1856.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 20, 1855.

THE Commissioner sent to Villa Clara to investigate the affair of the landing of Bozal negroes at Granadillo, which I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my last number, has returned, and the result has been the capture of 31 slaves, and the suspension of all the principal authorities of that place, who are subjected to a criminal prosecution before the Royal Audiencia, but I understand the proofs against them will turn out to be insufficient for their condemnation, although the Captain-General is morally convinced of their complicity and connivance.

It is very satisfactory to me that it was from my correspondent that Colonel Llorente obtained the clue to the discoveries he was enabled to make, but for which he would most probably have returned here without any information at all, and would necessarily have reported that no such disembarkation had taken place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 399.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received January 30, 1856.*)

My Lord,

Havana, December 26, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 28th ultimo,* containing your Lordship's high approval of the letters which I had addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General and to the Governor of the Bahamas, with the view to my obtaining the liberation from slavery of a negro called Cuaco or Quaco Ambrister, and a mulatto named Jem, who were taken from Nassau to Baracoa, and there sold.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship copy of further correspondence upon this subject, which I have had with General Concha.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 399.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, December 20, 1855.

IN consequence of the communication which your Honour addressed to this Government on the 20th October last, denouncing the sale made by Mrs. Anderson, in Baracoa, of the negro named Cuaco, and the mulatto Jem, notwithstanding their being free, I took the necessary measures to arrive at the truth of that act, and from inquiries which I made for that purpose, it resulted that the first of said individuals is in possession of Don Agustin Mones, Callejon de Justis No. 2, for sale, by order of his master. The negro being examined answered, that it was true that he came from Providence, with his mistress, who sold him to the American Consul, Mr. John Hartman, at Baracoa; Mr. Hartman afterwards made him over, in like manner, to a Frenchman, of the name of Don Pedro Soulet, and he to Don Manuel Orgeit, his last owner; and that likewise the mulatto Jem, who is at present in the possession of the aforementioned Consul at Baracoa, came with him.

The proceedings were in this state when I received the other communication from your Honour, transmitting to me the formalities practised at Nassau, to investigate into the said affair. Those proceedings consist of two declarations of two inhabitants of New Providence, by which the sale of the negro and mulatto is proved, although stating that they were sold under the belief that they were slaves; and of two extracts from the Register of Slaves, which John Ambrister, a landed proprietor of San Salvador, had from 1828 to 1831, upon which registry "Cuaco" or Juan, and "Jaime" or James, figure as fugitive slaves.

Not satisfied with this information, I asked for reserved papers from the authorities at Baracoa, the result of which was, that in the year 1820 or 1821, Dr. James Anderson arrived in that city, with the intention of buying rural property, which he did, in the district of Matá; that within a few months his lady arrived, bringing some slaves, amongst whom were the two in question. The former was sold by the Doctor himself in 1831, to Don Felipe Hartman, now dead, and is at present in the possession of Don Juan of the same name; and the latter passed, likewise, by sale, in the years 1837 or 1838, into the possession of Don José Rivas, and afterwards to that of different owners. That both arrived at Baracoa as slaves, and that with them their owners brought, as free, a brother of the mulatto, who returned to Providence within a few months, in the same condition, and a female, who, after the death of Dr. Anderson, went away with his widow, in the end of 1847; and that the mulatto, as well as the negro,

remained in Baracoa, without having claimed their liberty, notwithstanding the lapse of thirty-five years.

Your Honour will comprehend that in treating of occurrences of such long standing, in which no appearance of illegality has been discovered, I do not consider myself justified in instituting officially a judicial investigation. This, however, does not interfere with the parties interested presenting themselves to the "Sindico," claiming what they believe they have a right to; nor either that your Honour, in your private capacity, shall afford to them the instructions and necessary means to obtain a judicial discussion which may leave permanently established their true civil position.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 399.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, December 26, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 20th instant, in answer to my communication of the 20th October and 16th ultimo, respecting the liberation from slavery of the negro Quaco Ambrister, and the mulatto Jem, into which condition they were illegally sold by Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, at Baracoa, in this island, some years ago.

I have considered the objections which are stated by your Excellency to the ordering of proceedings officially in this case, upon the principle that both the said negro and the said mulatto were slaves at Nassau, and in that condition were brought to this island by Dr. and Mrs. Anderson.

But I have to state to your Excellency, that according to the Act of Parliament 46 Geo. III, cap. 52, anno 1807, the removal of slaves from any British Colony to any foreign country or Settlement was prohibited, and that the removal of any slaves from any British Colony, from and after the passing of said Act of Parliament, operated their confiscation to the Crown of Great Britain, and, consequently, the immediate freedom of every such slave so illegally removed; so that Cuaco Ambrister and Jem, having been illegally removed from Her Majesty's Colony of the Bahamas, were no longer slaves, nor the property of Dr. and Mrs. Anderson, who were punishable for having so removed them from Nassau.

I therefore claim those two persons, as being free subjects of Her Majesty, and I hope that your Excellency will order them to be given up to me, without further proceedings, since it appears by the reports which have been received by your Excellency (the result of the inquiries respecting them here and at Baracoa), there can be no doubt of their identity, which, nevertheless, if your Excellency should deem it necessary, I am ready to prove, by the witnesses I shall have brought from Nassau for that purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 400.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 30, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Havana, December 27, 1855.

I HAVE been informed that a cargo, consisting of no less than 430 Bozal negroes, were landed at Cabanas on the 26th of May last, from on board a schooner called the "*Gracias*" or the "*Gracci*."

My informant states these slaves were landed by the side of the fort, almost quite publicly, and with the connivance of the commanding officer

and the other authorities. I have no reason to doubt this story; but, on the contrary, it has been confirmed by the result of the inquiries I have made.

No. 401.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 1, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 31st of October last, inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Captain-General of Cuba respecting some slave-trading operations and other occurrences at Manzanillo and Santa Cruz, I transmit herewith, for your information, copies of a despatch which I addressed to Lord Howden, instructing him to make a representation to the Spanish Government upon the subject of your above-named despatch, and of a despatch which I have received from Lord Howden in reply.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 402.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 8, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th December last, inclosing copies of further correspondence between yourself and the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting the negro Cuaco Ambrister and the mulatto named Jem, who are alleged to have been illegally conveyed away from the Bahamas, and to have been sold as slaves in Cuba.

And I have to acquaint you that I approve of the letter which you addressed on the 26th December to General Concha, claiming Cuaco and Jem as free British subjects.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 403.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 8, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st of December last,† inclosing a copy of a Decree published by General Concha on the 10th of that month, providing for the registration of slaves in Cuba.

If, as you observe, the regulations laid down in this Decree shall be punctually carried into effect by the several authorities; if the returns therein prescribed shall be used as a means of establishing an accurate census of the slave population in Cuba; and if that census shall be revised at fixed periods, it is to be hoped that this system of registration may tend in some measure to prevent the importation into Cuba of fresh African slaves.

And as Her Majesty's Government trust that the Decree of the 10th of December may have this effect, I have to instruct you to express to General Concha the satisfaction with which they have learnt that he has adopted measures which, if faithfully executed, are calculated to check the continuance of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 307 and 315.

† Class A, No. 42.

No. 404.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received March 5.*)

My Lord,

Havana, January 29, 1856.

IN doing myself the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 22nd of December,* approving my having requested Commander Napier, of Her Majesty's sloop "Daring," to convey my despatch to the Governor of the Bahamas, upon the subject of the two men, Cuaco and Jem, who are claiming their release from slavery, I have to report to your Lordship that I have not yet received an answer from the Captain-General to my claim for these unfortunate men's liberation, copy of which I laid before your Lordship in my despatch of the 26th ultimo, founded upon their having been forfeited to the Crown by Dr. Anderson's violation of the Act 46 Geo. III, c. 52, anno 1807.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 405.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received March 5.*)

(Extract.)

Havana, January 29, 1856.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 22nd ultimo,† directing me to make every inquiry in my power, and report to your Lordship the actual state of the Yucatan labourers in this island, Mr. Lettsom, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Mexico, having stated to your Lordship that he had been informed their condition is truly pitiable.

It is the nature of the Indians of Yucatan to despond for a long while after their separation from their tribes, but they have known little else than suffering in their own country, and so they are always tame and submissive, conforming themselves to their fate, so that they make few complaints, and, excepting such as are subjected to labour in the fields, I am disposed to think that they are tolerably contented with their condition here.

As house servants, and most of them are so employed, they are generally well treated, but there are exceptions where these poor people have been so unlucky as to have been taken by unfeeling masters and mistresses, by whom they are hard worked, ill-clothed and fed, as well as cheated of their stipulated wages.

It has been found that they have not that robustness which is required for field labour, and therefore that they are not inquired for by the planters; indeed, the speculation of Messrs. Goicouria and Zangronis has not turned out to be profitable, for several reasons: first, because of the considerable amount which it is understood they paid for their privilege, and the premiums they incurred to parties whom they employed in Yucatan; secondly, because the Indians, it turned out, were not to be caught in numbers sufficient to make the trade worth following; and, lastly, because there was not demand enough for such labourers, so that after the arrival here of the last importations, they lay on hand for a very long time, and had to be maintained at a great expense. Latterly, none have been obtained from Yucatan, so that the trade from thence may be considered as at an end, unless something should occur to operate its revival, which does not seem likely to be the case.

Under these circumstances, the parties have engaged the services of a Spanish priest, who was formerly belonging to the Cathedral at Santiago de Cuba, &c. That person is now at the northern frontier of Mexico

employed in the endeavour to engage or obtain, by any means, the Indians, or other peones, to be sent here under Goicouria's and Zangronis' privilege, in which a certain Mr. Tamez of Mexico is also interested.

The priest has agencies at San Luis Potosi, and at Monterrey in Mexico.

No. 406.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received March 5.*)

My Lord,

Havana, January 30, 1856.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of December last, and its inclosure, instructing me to endeavour to trace a certain emancipated African, named John Baptist Dasalu, and should I succeed in doing so, to take such steps as may be practicable and necessary in order to enable him to leave Cuba, providing him with a passage to this country, the expenses of which will be borne by the Church Missionary Society.

I shall use my utmost endeavours to accomplish the Earl of Chichester's request, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 407.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 19, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 20th of December last, I inclose, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, inclosing copies of his correspondence with the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the occasion of his communicating to his Excellency the result of the investigation instituted by the Captain-General of Cuba with regard to the landing of a cargo of Bozal negroes at Granadillo in the month of October last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 320.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Trinidad de Cuba.*

No. 408.

Vice-Consul Smith to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Trinidad de Cuba, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that there have not been any slaves from Africa landed in this jurisdiction during the period of my residence here, from the 1st of March last to this date.

Soon after my arrival here a slaver made her appearance on this coast, but was unable to effect a landing of her cargo, owing to the measures taken to prevent it by these local authorities.

I have no doubt that this vessel was the brig "*Horatio*," of Thomaston, United States, which about that time successfully effected a landing of slaves at Ortigosa, and was afterwards picked up abandoned at sea, and carried into Key West.

It is a source of no little satisfaction to me to be able to report to your Lordship that the most notorious slave-trader in this district, and perhaps in the whole island, is about to leave the country.

Having reason to believe that two, if not three, expeditions, with slaves from Africa, are expected shortly to arrive on the coast in this neighbourhood, I did not fail to communicate the information I had received to Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, and that officer having called the attention of the Captain-General to the fact that so many slavers were on the eve of arriving here, the most positive orders have been received by these local authorities to prosecute with vigour all those concerned in such unhallowed Traffic, and accordingly such measures have been taken by them as will, doubtless, if properly carried out, result in the capture of the expected expeditions, should they be so bold as to attempt a landing of their cargoes in this jurisdiction.

No. 409.

Vice-Consul Smith to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 13.)

My Lord,

Trinidad de Cuba, September 30, 1855.

IN doing myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship the state of the Slave Trade in this district of Cuba, I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that since the date of my despatch of the 30th June last, two vessels, with full cargoes of slaves on board, having failed to effect a disembarkation in this jurisdiction, were compelled to sail away with them, doubtless for some other part of the island.

I received information of the first one towards the end of July. The vessel was seen for several days hovering off Zarsa, but finally disappeared, I have been assured, without having effected her purpose.

The other, a large brigantine under American colours, and said to have had upwards of 500 slaves on board, made her appearance in this vicinity about the middle of August, and, from information of a reliable

character which I had respecting this vessel, it appears that, being short of provisions, the crew upon their arrival on this coast were in a state of mutiny; that the master or some person concerned in the expedition offered to sell the slaves at almost any price to get rid of them, but neither at Sancti Spiritus nor at this place could he find anybody willing to take upon himself the risk of accepting the consignment of the slaves or vessel. A supply of provisions, however, was obtained from the shore (said to have been procured by means of a "guairo" sent from Casilda), and the slaver made sail to the eastward.

The Commandant of Marine of this port having sent the Spanish war-steamer "Neptuno" in pursuit, it is very probable that she would have come up with and captured the slaver, had not the steamer most unfortunately fallen short of coal, and been obliged to return to port just as the Commander had received information from a fishing-vessel that a suspicious-looking brigantine answering entirely to the description of the slaver, had been seen by them the day previous crowding all sail in the direction of Santa Cruz, off which port I understand she remained at anchor forty-eight hours.

Owing to the fearful ravages made among the slaves by cholera last year, labourers on this part of the island, especially on the sugar estates, are exceedingly scarce; indeed, so scarce that had the slavers in question been able to effect a disembarkation of their negroes without discovery, the very highest prices would readily have been obtained for them here.

The fact, then, of two, if not three vessels, with full cargoes of slaves on board having been driven away from the coast of this jurisdiction within the last few months, is another proof that when the local authorities act with vigilance and zeal, and are determined to cause the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade to be honestly and faithfully observed, it becomes an exceedingly difficult matter for those engaged in that detestable Traffic, to effect their wicked ends even in the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. SIDNEY SMITH.

No. 410.

Vice-Consul Smith to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 30, 1856.)

(Extract.)

Trinidad de Cuba, December 31, 1855.

IT is with very great satisfaction that I do myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship that there have not been any slaves from Africa landed within the jurisdiction of this Vice-Consulate during the quarter of the year ended this day.

I have information, of a reliable character, that no less than five vessels with full cargoes of slaves on board have, during the past year, attempted to effect a disembarkation on the coasts in this vicinity, but happily without success. It is to be regretted, however, there should exist so much reason to believe that their attempts at other points of the island were more fortunate.

I would respectfully beg leave to notice to your Lordship the vigilance and zeal exercised, and the determination hitherto evinced, by Lieutenant-Governor Colonel Riquelme, to cause the due observance of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade in this district of Cuba. Such praiseworthy conduct on the part of the Lieutenant-Governor demonstrates in the clearest manner that when the local authorities are animated with a proper spirit, and are in earnest in what they do to put down the horrible Traffic, it becomes almost impossible for the slave-trader to escape detection, attempt to land his victims where he may on this island.

TRIPOLI.

No. 411.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Herman.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 14, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you, herewith, a copy of a letter, and of its inclosures,* from the Colonial Office, respecting the arrival in the port of Avlona of a Turkish vessel from the coast of Barbary with 50 slaves on board, which were publicly sold there; and I have to desire that you will inquire into the circumstances attending the embarkation of these slaves, and that you will report to me all the information which you may be able to obtain respecting this, or any similar transactions taking place within the limits of your Consulate.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 412.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Herman.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 16, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you, herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, inclosing a copy of a Vizirial letter by which the Pasha of Tripoli is directed to put a stop to any Traffic in Slaves between the territory under his government and the Island of Candia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 413.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 7.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, June 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th May last, instructing me to furnish you with all the information I might be able to collect on the subject of 50 negro slaves that were conveyed from this port to Avlona in Albania by the Turkish ship "*Sari Pervas*."

On application to the proper authorities here, I find that the vessel in question, which had been chartered by an Albanian merchant, one Deli Bairam, with a cargo of dates, 50 slaves, and eleven passengers, cleared out on the 5th of April last for Durazzo.

I have further the honour to state that the embarkation of these slaves violated no standing orders. Anterior to the receipt of your Lord-

* Inclosures 1, 2, and 3 in No. 422.

† Class B, presented 1855, No. 587.

ship's communication of the 16th ultimo, transmitting a Vizirial order prohibiting the exportation of slaves to the Island of Candia, their exportation from hence to every part of the Turkish dominions was perfectly unfettered.

Of the prohibitory firmans to which Mr. Eiverback, in his report to the Secretary of Government at Corfu, alludes, neither the Governor-General nor myself have any knowledge. It is inconceivable therefore, should they have ever been promulgated, that they should not have reached us through the same official channels as the Vizirial letter relative to the Island of Candia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

No. 414.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 7.)

(Extract.)

Tripoli, June 11, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 16th ultimo, transmitting copy of a Vizirial letter of the 18th March last to the Governor-General, prohibiting henceforward the exportation from this Regency of negro slaves to the Island of Candia, I immediately waited upon his Excellency to ascertain if the Vizirial order in question had yet reached him.

The order, I found, had been received, and the Governor-General, moreover, assured me that the instructions it conveyed shall be rigorously enforced. The Traffic in Slaves between this Pashalic and Candia may, therefore, be considered at an end.

Whenever the total extinction of the Traffic in Slaves may be determined upon by the Turkish Government, a sufficient time should be previously allowed for the circulation of its intentions through the interior of Africa.

If this precaution be not observed, the leaders of the various caravans that may be moving at the time upon Bengazi, Morzouk and Ghadames, on finding all the vents of their commerce suddenly closed, with exhausted supplies, and the prospect of a long and arduous retrograde march before them, these men, from their well-known cruelty and inhumanity, would unhesitatingly abandon their sick and foot-foundered, who always constitute a large figure, to perish as so much valueless merchandize in the desert.

No. 415.

Vice-Consul Reade to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 7.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, November 13, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the evening before last it came to my knowledge that an Ottoman vessel, belonging to one of the principal native merchants here, was to sail early next morning for Smyrna, with upwards of 100 slaves on board, and, besides, so full a cargo, that but few of them could find accommodation below deck.

Consequently, knowing that Mustapha Nourree, the late Pasha, had been ordered by his Government to limit the embarkation of slaves to 20 per ship, I deemed it my duty to interfere, if possible, before the vessel could get away; and at a very early hour next morning, I prevailed on the Captain of the Port to send a boat after her, already outside the harbour, and bring her back, which was effected.

At a later hour I waited upon his Excellency the Governor-General, and made him a communication, which I handed to him in writing, copy of which I have the honour to inclose.

His Excellency was taken by surprise, as he had heard nothing of the matter; expressed his thanks for my having brought it under his notice, and instantly sent for the owner of the ship, and being informed by him that there were 140 slaves on board, gave orders that the whole be forthwith relanded, and, notwithstanding the merchant's entreaties, directed the Chief of Police to proceed on board in person, and see that not one was left in the ship, which was immediately done.

Shortly after, his Excellency sent to inform me that, having found that by the last order on the subject received from Constantinople, no Ottoman vessel was permitted to convey more than 25 slaves at a time to any part of Turkey, except the Island of Candia, all he could do was rigorously to enforce the orders of the Porte.

I have reported this matter to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, as well as Her Majesty's Consul at Smyrna, conceiving it not unlikely that the number limited by his Excellency the Governor-General may be exceeded by smuggling them on board at night.

In the hope that your Lordship will approve of these measures, I have, &c.

(Signed) R. READE.

Inclosure in No. 415.

Vice-Consul Reade to Osman Pasha.

Sir,

Tripoli, November 11, 1855.

I HASTEN to bring to your Excellency's knowledge that an Ottoman vessel, belonging to the brother of the late Sheik el Bled, Mohamed Seyd Sherif, is on the point of sailing for Smyrna, with, to my knowledge, upwards of 100 slaves on board.

As his Excellency Mustapha Nourree Pasha received orders that no vessel could take away more than 20 slaves at one time, which order he rigorously put in execution, it becomes my duty to bring under your Excellency's grave consideration this audacious infraction of the benevolent decrees of the Sublime Porte, in the firm conviction that your Excellency's humane feelings will not permit these unfortunate beings to be conveyed away in the manner I have reported to your Excellency, especially at this season of the year.

I request, &c.
(Signed) R. READE.

No. 416.

The Earl of Clarendon to Vice-Consul Reade.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo, reporting the circumstances under which you applied to the Pasha of Tripoli to stop the departure of an Ottoman vessel which was on the point of sailing from that port to Smyrna with 140 slaves on board.

I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps taken by you in order to obtain the detention of the vessel in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 417.

Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 24.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, January 26, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the Slave Trade Returns of this Consulate, and the Vice-Consulates of Bengazi and Mesurata for the past year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 417.

RETURN of Slaves, Male and Female (the sex not being specified in the Custom-house books), exported from the Port of Tripoli, in the West.

	Number.		
During the year 1855	..	..	2,262
Number exported in 1854	..	..	472
Increase	..	..	1,790

British Consulate, Tripoli, December 31, 1855.

(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Memorandum.—The increase in the number of slaves exported from the Regency of Tripoli during the past year is attributable to two causes :—

First. The extraordinarily high price of food caused by the failure of the last crops. And,

Secondly. The expected abolition of slavery in the Ottoman Empire.

Inclosure 2 in No. 417.

RETURN showing the Number of Negroes exported from the Port of Bengazi during the course of the year 1855.

Total number of negroes shipped during the year			
to Candia, Scio, and Constantinople ..	..	812	
Exported from Bengazi in 1854	..	526	
Increase	..	286	

N.B.—It is reported that the Wadi caravan, hourly expected here from Djallo, conveys upwards of 3,500 negroes.

Bengazi, December 31, 1855.

(Signed) F. H. S. WERRY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 417.

RETURN of Slaves of the Vice-Consulate of Mesurata for the year 1855.

Arrived.

	Number.				
Males	..	..	..	..	130
Females	..	..	..	..	70
Total	..	..	..	..	200

<i>Departed.</i>					Number.
Males	..	..	..	..	80
Females	..	..	..	..	40
Total					120
<i>British Vice-Consulate, Mesurata, December 31, 1855.</i>					
(Signed)					O. T. WARRINGTON.

				Number.
N.B.—Arrived in 1854	..	..	..	500
„ 1855	..	..	..	200
Decrease ..				300
Departed in 1854	..	..	..	410
„ 1855	..	..	..	120
Decrease				290

TURKEY.

No. 418.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, March 22, 1855.

AGREEABLY to your Lordship's instructions, I have suggested to Reshid Pasha the advantage which might result from the conclusion of a Conventional Agreement between the Ottoman Porte and Her Majesty's Government, with a view to the more complete suppression of the Traffic in Slaves procured from Georgia and Circassia.

The Grand Vizier is not prepared to enter into a Convention for that purpose, but he does not object to render the Porte's prohibition more stringent by issuing fresh injunctions to those of its functionaries or Commanders whose position may enable them to act efficiently for the repression of the Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 419.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 7, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd ultimo, stating that the Turkish Government is not willing to conclude a Treaty with Her Majesty's Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade from Georgia and Circassia, but that the Grand Vizier will issue fresh injunctions to the Turkish authorities for its suppression; and I have, in reply, to desire your Excellency to express to Reshid Pasha the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the stringent instructions proposed will be issued and acted upon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 420.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 11.)

(Extract.)

Constantinople, March 29, 1855.

INCLOSED herewith, in translation, is a Vizirial letter, addressed, on my demand, to the Mushir of Trebizond and the Commander of the forces at Batoom, in order to enforce a strict execution of the Sultan's firman against the Slave Traffic from Circassia.

Inclosed herewith, in copy, is a report addressed to me by Mr. Pisani in answer to my instructions respecting a Convention for the more effectual enforcement of the Sultan's firman against the Circassian Slave Trade.

Inclosure 1 in No. 420.

Despatch addressed to the Governor of Trebizond and the Commander-in-chief of the Army of Batoom.

(Traduction.)

6 Rejeb, 1271. (24 Mars, 1855.)

NOUS venons d'apprendre d'une manière positive que les autorités de la Sublime Porte ne montrent que très imparfaitement la disposition et le zèle qu'il faut pour mettre à exécution le firman annoncé et expédié qui défend le Commerce d'Esclaves Georgiens et Circassiens ; et même que l'autorité locale de Trebizonde a dit, par rapport aux esclaves Circassiens qui se trouvaient abord de deux bâtimens arrivés le 26 Décembre à l'échelle de Trébizonde, qu'il n'a pas été possible de vérifier et de prononcer définitivement que ces esclaves étaient, ou qu'ils n'étaient pas, de véritables esclaves, et qu'on ne pouvait pas les detenir : voilà comment l'autorité a voulu s'excuser.

Or, il est facile à l'autorité de distinguer les Circassiens des Georgiens. Et puis, les retards qu'on voit dans l'exécution complète des ordres contenus dans le firman susmentionné, auront pour résultat une très grave responsabilité qui devra nécessairement peser sur eux qui les causent.

Cet état de choses a été porté à la connaissance aussi de son Excellence le Pacha Mouchir du camp Impérial de Batoom. Ainsi désormais pour mettre fin à ce commerce, votre Excellence aura à communiquer à cet égard avec le Mouchir susmentionné pour prendre dans ce but les mesures nécessaires ; elle donnera des ordres très rigoureux dans le même but à tous ceux qu'il faudra ; et de cette manière elle mettra à exécution, sans manquer à rien, les ordres contenus dans le firman sus-énoncé. Et c'est à ces fins que je vous écris cette lettre.

Inclosure 2 in No. 420.

Mr. Pisani to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Pera, March 8, 1855.

IN conformity with your Excellency's instructions, I read and explained respectively to Aali Pasha and the Grand Vizier Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 5th of February, 1855, as well as its inclosures, and availed myself of the opportunity to observe to them, the little attention paid by the Porte's provincial authorities to the execution of the Sultan's firman prohibiting the Traffic in Circassian and Georgian slaves, and, at the same time, endeavoured to induce their Highnesses to enter into some Convention with Her Majesty's Government in order to give more effect and weight to the Sultan's benevolent intentions.

I regret to have to state that they have shown no willingness to come to such an arrangement ; but expressed their readiness to address fresh and more clear and stringent instructions to the proper authorities in the ports of the Black Sea, and requested to be allowed to be furnished with a copy of his Lordship's above-mentioned despatch, as well as of its inclosure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ET. PISANI.

No. 421.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 29th of March, inclosing a translation of a Vizirial letter prohibiting the Traffic in Georgian and Circassian slaves, together with a copy of a report from Mr. Pisani of an interview which he had had with the Grand Vizier upon the same subject; and I have to state that I approve of your Excellency's proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 422.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 14, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a letter, and of its inclosures, from the Colonial Office, respecting the arrival in the port of Avlona of a Turkish vessel from the coast of Barbary, with 50 slaves on board, which were being publicly sold there; and I have to instruct your Excellency to bring this matter immediately under the notice of the Turkish Government, and request that measures may be taken for punishing the parties who have set at naught the Sultan's firmans against slave-trading.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 422.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.

Sir,

Downing Street, May 8, 1855.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, the copy of a despatch, and of its inclosure, from the Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, reporting the arrival at Avlona of a Turkish vessel from the coast of Barbary, with 50 slaves on board, for the purpose of being sold in Albania.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 422.

Sir J. Young to Sir G. Grey.

Sir,

Corfu, April 20, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, with a view to its being communicated to the Earl of Clarendon, the accompanying translation of a letter received from Her Majesty's Consular Agent at Avlona, reporting the arrival of a Turkish merchant-vessel in that port from the coast of Barbary, with 50 slaves on board, a portion of whom have been already sold there, and the remainder taken into the interior for a similar purpose.

I have reported the circumstance to Mr. Saunders, Her Majesty's Consul for Albania, for the adoption of such measures as he may deem expedient.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN YOUNG.

Inclosure 3 in No. 422.

Mr. Averbach to Mr. Bowen.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Avlona, April 17, 1855.

I CANNOT refrain from reporting to you the following circumstance:—

On Saturday morning last, the Turkish mercantile goletta, the "*Sar Pervas*," of 1,500 kilos burthen, and commanded by a certain Akiff Hussein, arrived here from Tripoli of Barbary. The captain immediately landed an Albanian merchant with 50 black slaves, varying from 8 to 18 years of age. This slave proprietor daily disposes of these unfortunate beings, and we stand inactive and look on at such barbarities. Thus far, 8 of these slaves have been already sold.

The slaves are examined, both male and female, as if they were horses. The goletta, when off Malta, met with a storm, and would have put in there but he, the captain, being afraid of being captured by some vessel of war, kept at sea.

The captain intends conveying the remainder of the slaves into the interior, for a similar purpose, by way of Berat and Elbassan, and will leave here on Friday.

The Sultan has prohibited this illegal Traffic, and issued firmans for preventing it, but our people in authority here do feel but little disposed to follow up their instructions.

I leave it to you, therefore, to adopt the quickest and surest method of giving these poor people their liberty, if possible.

(Signed) S. AVERBACH.

No. 423.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 13.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, May 31, 1855.

INCLOSED herewith, for your Lordship's information, is copy of an official note which I have recently addressed to Fuad Pasha concerning the Traffic of Slaves from Tripoli, as exemplified at Avlona by a late nefarious infraction of the Sultan's prohibitory order.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE

Inclosure in No. 423.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to Fuad Pasha.

Constantinople, May 26, 1855.

THE Undersigned, in execution of special instructions from his Government, has the honour to bring to the knowledge of the Ottoman Porte, through his Excellency Fuad Pasha, the accompanying official statement, from which it appears that a Turkish vessel named "*Sari Pervas*" has lately landed at Avlona 50 black slaves exported from Tripoli in the West, and that the Commander, Akif Hussein, was allowed by the local authorities to sell 8 of them publicly, and to go away with the remainder for the purpose of selling them at Berat and Albassan.

The Undersigned has the honour to remind Fuad Pasha that the whole of this proceeding is in direct violation of the Sultan's firmans, and he expects, in consequence, that the Porte will adopt, without loss of time, the most effectual measures for recovering the slaves thus unlawfully exported, and preventing the recurrence of so inhuman a Traffic.

The Undersigned has, moreover, to inform his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government rely on the Porte for vindicating the Sultan's authority, by bringing to punishment all those who have criminally taken part in this nefarious transaction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 424.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord, Foreign Office, June 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 31st ultimo, and I have, in reply, to express to your Excellency my approval of the note which you addressed on the 26th ultimo to Fuad Pasha on the subject of the Turkish vessel "*Sari Pervas*," which arrived at Avlona in April last with 50 slaves from Barbary.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 425.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 28.)

My Lord, Constantinople, June 18, 1855.

INCLOSED herewith, in copy for your Lordship's information, is a letter addressed by me, in French, to Fuad Pasha on the subject of the late introduction of a number of black slaves into Avlona and other Turkish ports of the Adriatic under the commercial flag of Turkey.

I wrote it at the suggestion of Baron Koller, who, in consequence of the circumstance stated therein as having occurred between the Austrian steam-cruizer "*Taurus*" and the Turkish slave-vessel "*Sari Pervas*," thought it his duty to make a serious representation to the Porte.

I had already brought the conduct of the Turkish captain and of the Turkish authorities on shore under the consideration of the Porte, and I willingly joined the Austrian Minister, and probably the French Chargé d'Affaires also, in giving a more impressive form to my application for redress.

Further information on the subject has reached me this morning from Her Majesty's Consul at Prevesa, and I hope that, by communicating it to the Porte, I shall be able to give greater weight to my previous remonstrances, and to obtain a result satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 425.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to Fuad Pasha.

M. le Ministre, Palais d'Angleterre à Péra, le 13 Juin, 1855.

JE me suis déjà empressé de porter à votre connaissance le regrettable fait qui reste à la charge du Capitaine Akiff Hussein, commandant la bombarde Ottomane, le "*Sari Perras*." Il appert que ce bâtiment a

transporté il y a près de deux mois une soixantaine d'esclaves noirs de Tripoli d'Afrique, à Valona et à d'autres ports d'Albanie, où ils ont été successivement vendus. Il est également connu à la Sublime Porte que ce même bâtiment, chassé à la hauteur de Durazzo par le "Taurus," bateau-à-vapeur Autrichien, fut ensuite mis à la disposition des autorités locales de cette ville, avec l'observation expresse que l'on s'attendait de leur part à ce que le susdit Akiff Hussein fût tenu à rendre compte de sa participation à ce Trafic honteux.

Les sentiments magnanimes de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan ont été tant de fois manifestés qu'il serait entièrement superflu de citer dans cette occasion soit les règlements qui défendent aux commandants de navires Turcs de transporter des esclaves à vendre, soit la prohibition récente de la vente des esclaves Circassiens, pour démontrer la nécessité d'une enquête sévère afin que les coupables intéressés dans la vile speculation à laquelle le "*Sari Pervas*" s'est livré, soient punis d'une manière exemplaire.

C'est en faveur de l'humanité et de la civilisation que je réclame cet acte de justice, ne doutant pas que votre Excellence reconnaisse l'obligation ainsi que l'avantage de garantir par ce moyen les côtes de la Turquie contre un Trafic repoussé par les lois des nations les plus éclairées.

Je profite, &c.

No. 426.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant, and I have in reply to inform your Excellency that I approve the note which you addressed on the 13th instant to Fuad Pasha, respecting the recent introduction of 50 black slaves into Avlona, and other ports of Albania, by the Turkish vessel "*Sari Pervas*."

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 427.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the conveyance of 50 negro slaves from Tripoli to Avlona, in the Turkish vessel "*Sari Pervas*," I now transmit, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch* on this subject which I have received from Mr. Consul Herman.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 428.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Consul Herman, relative to the Vizirial letter of the 18th of March, prohibiting the exportation of negro slaves from Tripoli to Candia; and I have to desire that

your Excellency will communicate to the Porte Mr. Hexman's observations as to the necessity of adopting measures to prepare the slave-merchants of the interior of Africa for the early and total abolition of the exportation of slaves from Tripoli.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 429.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 19, 1855.

MR. SAUNDERS, Her Majesty's Consul at Prevesa, has transmitted to me copies of the two despatches* which he addressed to your Excellency on the 9th and 28th of June, respecting the importation into Albania of three cargoes of slaves from Tripoli.

Her Majesty's Government have learnt with extreme regret, by Mr. Saunders' report which accompanied these copies, that this abominable Traffic from the Barbary coast has lately so much increased, and that the shipment of Africans at Tripoli is still invested with all the character of a regular mercantile transaction; tariff duties being levied thereon, and custom-house permits being issued for the embarkation of human beings, as in the case of ordinary merchandise.

I had occasion to call your Excellency's attention to this subject, in my despatch of the 27th of August, 1853,† and to express the belief of Her Majesty's Government that the Sultan could not be aware of a state of things so repugnant to his just and humane character. Her Majesty's Government trust that if it should be true that this practice has still been continued, such a scandal will at once be put an end to, with a view to the complete abolition of all exportation of slaves from Tripoli, which is referred to in my despatch to your Excellency of the 13th instant.‡

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 430.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 9, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I transmit to your Excellency herewith, a copy of a despatch§ from Her Majesty's Consul at Rhodes, reporting the arrival there of a Turkish vessel from Tripoli, with slaves on board; and I have to state to your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government observe with extreme regret the increase of this nefarious Traffic, in Ottoman vessels, evidently protected by Ottoman authorities.

I have to instruct your Excellency to bring the contents of this despatch to the knowledge of Fuad Effendi.

No. 431.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 16.)

My Lord,

Therapia, August 3, 1855.

IN reply to your Lordship's instruction of July 19, I have the honour to state that the subject has not been lost sight of, either in its bearing on the Traffic in Black Slaves from Barbary, or on the contraven-

* Inclosures 1 and 3 in No. 443.

† No. 428.

‡ Class B, presented 1854, No. 675.

§ No. 460.

tion of the Sultan's firman abolishing the purchase and sale of Georgian and Circassian slaves, or, finally, on the revival of a slave-market at Constantinople. I am still in communication with the Turkish Ministers on the whole subject comprising those several questions; and, in reply to my communication of your Lordship's above-mentioned despatch, I learn from Fuad Pasha that he wishes to have an interview with the French and Austrian Representatives, as well as with me, before he adopts any definitive measures respecting the abolition of the African part of the Traffic in Slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 432.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 24, 1855.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 3rd instant, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul in Crete, stating that another Turkish vessel, with slaves on board, had touched at Canea on her way from Tripoli to Myi lene.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 433.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 3.)

(Extract.)

Therapia, August 20, 1855.

I AM still in communication with the Turkish Government on the subject of negro slavery; and am looking out for a favourable opportunity of bringing the French and Austrian Representatives to a meeting, in concert with the Grand Vizier, Fuad Pasha, and myself, in order to determine what measures it would be advisable for the Porte to adopt as most conducive to the suppression of the Trade, which has evidently acquired a fresh degree of strength.

No. 434.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 15, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Consul at Prevesa, respecting the measures adopted for the suppression of Slave Trade in the Ottoman dominions; and I have to desire that your Excellency will inquire whether the orders which the Porte announced its intention to issue for that purpose have actually been issued and generally promulgated.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 453.

† No. 447.

No. 435.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 30, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, by which I instructed your Excellency to ascertain whether the orders respecting the suppression of Slave Trade in the Ottoman dominions, which the Porte announced its intention to issue, had actually been issued and generally promulgated, I transmit to your Excellency copies of two despatches* from Her Majesty's Consul in Crete, reporting the arrival at Canea of two Turkish vessels with slaves on board.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 436.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 16.)

My Lord,

Therapia, October 4, 1855.

REFERRING to your Lordship's despatch of 15th September, I have the honour to state that, in answer to an inquiry which I thought it proper to make, the Grand Vizier and Fuad Pasha have informed me that the Vizirial letter mentioned by Mr. Saunders in his despatch to your Lordship of the 25th of August, was addressed to the Pasha of Yanina, in answer to a report from him on the subject of slaves from Tripoli, and not communicated to the Embassies because it was of local application, not extending to the whole Empire.

Fuad Pasha asserts that the Vizirial letter in question was dispatched before the Porte received any joint communication from the British, French, and Austrian Legations, on the subject of slaves imported from Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 437.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 22, 1855.

I LEARN from your Excellency's despatch of the 4th instant, that the Vizirial letter which was addressed on the 5th July last to Izzet Pasha, Governor of Epirus, approving his proceedings in prohibiting the sale of some slaves which had been brought to Albania from the Barbary coast, was not founded upon a general prohibition of the Slave Trade emanating from the Sultan, but applied only to the particular case referred to in that Vizirial letter.

I have therefore to desire that your Excellency will, in concert with the French and Austrian Legations, propose to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs that he should point out to the Sultan how greatly he would enhance the reputation which he has already attained as a public benefactor, if His Imperial Majesty would think fit to complete the measures which he has, during the past and present year, caused to be undertaken for the suppression of the Slave Trade in Georgia, Circassia,

* Nos. 454 and 455.

Barbary, and Albania, by issuing an edict entirely prohibiting and abolishing the Traffic in Slaves throughout all parts of the Ottoman dominions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 438.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 8.)

My Lord,

Therapia, October 29, 1855.

I HAVE again reminded the Grand Vizier and Fuad Pasha of the representations which have been made to them by Her Majesty's Embassy, partly in concert with those of France and Austria, on the subject of slavery with reference to the importation of negroes from Africa, the revival of a slave-market at Constantinople, and the continuance of the Traffic from Georgia and Circassia, notwithstanding its abolition by the Sultan's firmans.

The Sultan's Ministers excuse themselves from the charge of delay by alleging the incessant occupation which is devolved upon them by the war and its attendant operations. They have promised, at the same time, to bring the matters in question under the deliberation of the Council with the least practicable delay.

It appears that the correspondence relating to fresh arrivals of the forbidden commodity from Tripoli has been translated for the information of the Porte, but not yet submitted to the Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE.

No. 439.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence I transmit to your Excellency herewith, for your information, copies of two despatches* from Mr. Ongley, Her Majesty's Consul in Crete, reporting further arrivals in the port of Canea of slaves from Barbary on board Ottoman vessels.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 440.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1855.

MR. READE, the British Vice-Consul at Tripoli, has informed me that he has reported to your Excellency the circumstances under which he applied to the Pasha to stop the departure of an Ottoman vessel from that port, which was about to proceed to Smyrna with 140 slaves on board.

It appears from Mr. Reade's despatch that the late Pasha of Tripoli had been ordered by his Government to limit the embarkation of slaves to twenty persons in each ship: and I have to instruct your Excellency to

* Nos. 456 and 457.

call the attention of the Porte to this matter; because, if this regulation is intended to be permanent, and is not merely a preliminary step towards the complete abolition of the Slave Trade at Tripoli, it must be regarded as a sanction given by the Ottoman Government to the Traffic in Slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 441.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Paris, March 13, 1856.

I INCLOSE herewith copy of an address presented to Viscount Palmerston by the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, respecting slavery and the Slave Trade in the Turkish dominions; and I have to instruct your Excellency to state to the Turkish Government that at this moment, when peace is about to be concluded, the Porte could do nothing more acceptable to Her Majesty's Government and to the British nation than to adopt measures which should be really effectual for putting an end to the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 441.

M. Chamerozvow to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

27, New Broad Street, March 10, 1856.

I AM directed by the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society to forward to your Lordship a copy of an Address on the subject of Turkish slavery and the Slave Trade, which has been handed to Lord Palmerston.

The Committee venture to express the hope that your Lordship will give the Address your serious consideration, and seek to give effect to the suggestions it contains.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LOUIS ALEXIS CHAMEROVZOW,
Secretary.

Inclosure 2 in No. 441.

Address.

To the Right Honourable Viscount Palmerston, &c.

My Lord,

THE Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society are desirous of submitting to your Lordship a few observations on the subject of slavery in Turkey, and on the continuance of the Slave Trade to that country from Georgia, Circassia, and Africa, with a view to induce Her Majesty's Government to use its utmost influence to accomplish the immediate extinction of both these evils.

The Committee would, in the first place, observe, with reference to the abolition of slavery in Turkey as dependent on the suppression of the Slave Trade, that experience in our own and in other countries has demonstrated the futility of attempts to extinguish the latter, so long as the former is permitted to continue; and they are of opinion that the various objections which have been raised against any interference with what—referring to Slavery—has been designated as one of the domestic institutions of Turkey, are without reasonable foundation. They conceive

that besides involving an infraction of the fundamental principle, namely, that slave-holding in any form whatever is essentially sinful and displeasing to God, the continuance of the system is utterly incompatible with the present advanced state of civilization; and that there are two special grounds which justify the interference of Her Majesty's Government, and on which the abolition of slavery in Turkey may be urged.

No Mahometan can be legally enslaved in a country where that religion prevails; hence the system presses with cruel severity on the Christian populations of Georgia and Circassia, in whose persons, as your Lordship possesses ample means of knowing, a Traffic is carried on which has long been condemned by the united voice of Christian Europe. The Committee are, therefore, of opinion that the fact of the Mahometans being prohibited from holding persons of their own religion in slavery, whilst they are permitted to retain Christians in this degraded condition, is one of the very strongest reasons that can be urged in justification of the interference in their behalf of the Representatives of Christian Powers.

In 1846, the Sultan declared the Slave Trade to be illegal, and, in 1854, gave additional force to that declaration by the issue of two firmans specially directed against the Trade in Georgians and Circassians. It therefore follows that at least all those persons who have been introduced as slaves since the former period, have been so introduced illegally, and have a right to their freedom; whilst the principle on which that declaration was founded is applicable equally to those persons who were in bondage anterior to the date thereof.

The Committee respectfully submit that this second ground has as much force as the former one; and that in soliciting Her Majesty's Government to stipulate for the immediate abolition of slavery in Turkey, even on these two grounds alone, they are only seeking to induce the Sultan to carry out the object evidently contemplated by him when he declared the Slave Trade to be illegal, decreed the closing of the slave marts, and issued the firmans of 1854 prohibiting the continuance of the Trade in Georgians and Circassians.

The Committee cannot conceive that, in the present state of the relations of Turkey with this country, His Majesty the Sultan would be indifferent to representations made to him, in a friendly spirit, in behalf of Christians held in slavery in his Empire; and they would fain hope that he will be induced to extend to the entire class who have been reduced to this degraded condition, the freedom to which they are entitled, and of which they have been so cruelly deprived. The abolition, throughout his dominions, of an institution so odious as slavery, would assuredly be regarded as a signal proof of His Majesty's earnest desire to introduce social reforms commensurate with the requirements of the enlightened humanity of the nineteenth century, whilst it would tend to unite his Government yet more intimately with that of Her Britannic Majesty. On the other hand, and employing the strong language of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, the notorious fact "that one kind of slavery insulting to Christians, and another condemned by Mahometans, both being a scandal to humanity, are practised at this time by the Sultan's subjects, and at the very seat of Government," is calculated to inspire Christian Europe with feelings of animosity against Turkey, and to excite it to protest against an alliance with her.

In relation to the Traffic in Negroes—especially in lads of tender years—from various parts of the interior of Africa, it is well known that the principal demand for them is to supply the Turkish markets; and the Committee regret to find, by the returns of Her Majesty's Consuls and Vice-Consuls at Tripoli, Bengazi, Mourzouk, Mesurata, Massowah, Canea, Cairo, Erzeroum, &c., that the Trade is still prosecuted to a very considerable extent; whilst to the ordinary incentives which induce the slave-dealers to prosecute their immoral Traffic, the authorities at Constantinople hold out to them a premium of 50 piastres per head, to convey them to the metropolis direct, instead of taking them to Tripoli or elsewhere for trans-shipment.

It has been stated that a representation on this subject was to be made to the Sultan: but, so far as the Committee have means of judging, it does not appear to have produced any result.

The Committee rejoice to acknowledge that the firmans issued by the Sultan in 1854, already referred to, were steps in the right direction; as was also the prohibition, by the Viceroy of Egypt, of the Traffic in Negroes across the southern frontier of the country under his rule. Nor would the Committee lose the present opportunity of bearing testimony to the benevolent efforts of Her Majesty's Representative at Constantinople, to whose remonstrances chiefly may be attributed the issue of the firmans in question. But, according to the evidence before the Committee, they fear that these prohibitory enactments are evaded to an extent limited only by the demand for slaves, and that the evil is likely to continue unabated.

With respect to the nature of the institution of slavery, as practised in Turkey, the Committee can regard it only as an unmitigated evil; whilst there are some features peculiar to it which render it loathsome to the last degree, and excite feelings of the utmost horror, disgust, and abhorrence. On this subject they consider that an extract from the remarkable despatches of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe to M. Pisani, at Pera, dated 29th of August, 1854; and from Brigadier-General Williams to the Earl of Clarendon, dated from Erzerroom, 6th of February, 1855, will not be out of place.

Lord Stratford says, after referring to the public sale of Georgian children of both sexes in Pera and Galata:

"Such things are inhuman enough at any time. They are scarcely credible when viewed as public transactions occurring at Constantinople under the reign of so benevolent a Sovereign as the present Sultan. Brought to notice at a time when Christian Powers have sent their armies and squadrons into Turkey for its defence, and when those armies and squadrons, composed of Christians, are fighting side by side with Mussulmans, and confounding all differences of religion in the common cause of humanity and national independence, they set at nought every calculation and excite the most unqualified disgust.

"There are persons who distinguish between slavery in the East, and slavery in the West. The distinction is not wholly unfounded. Unlike the negro in America, the slave in Turkey is rather a domestic servant than a field drudge or beast of burthen. He is not ostensibly ill-treated. If a male, he rises occasionally to posts of profit and honour: if a female, ease, and even luxury, may be her portion in the harem of some Court favourite or opulent functionary. The degradation, nevertheless, remains; and the privation of liberty, not forfeited by crime, is itself an intolerable evil. But the injury does not stop there. The slave can hold no property—he is a property himself; and, worse than all, he is but too often an instrument of vice, and sometimes even of crime. His life is at his owner's mercy. If a Christian, his children are born to slavery, as if to reconcile those who never can be parents to the mutilation which deprived them of that hope. In one respect there is no difference between negro and Circassian slavery. Black or white, wherever slavery exists, the whole society suffers. A curse is on the Trade. Dealer and owner are alike affected by the taint. They treat their fellow-creatures like brutes, and are brutalized in return.

"In Turkey, where the disease, appearing in a milder form, is, nevertheless, fatal to a sound state of health, imported slaves fill many places in the State, and most places in private families, which might be better occupied by free natives. So placed, they minister to those habits of expense and sensuality which undermine the strength of the Empire, and convey but too often the sentiments of a slave into posts of high command and honourable trust.

"Such being the case, it is not too much to expect that, in its own interest, as well as from consideration for its allies, the Porte will exert itself to check the barbarous and shameful practice which I have described. Let preventive measures be applied to three stages of the Traffic—to purchase, to conveyance, and to sale. Let a firman declare the Sultan's pleasure in these respects. Let peremptory instructions, prohibiting the

purchase of slaves, be sent to the commanders of His Majesty's forces. Let the conveyance of slaves be treated as contraband, on the responsibility of all concerned. Let their sale within the Sultan's dominions be strictly prevented by the police, and every transgression be visited with punishment on buyer and seller alike.

"So long as the Trade is permitted or connived at; so long as preventive measures, capable of enforcement, are loosely, or not all, employed; the Turkish authorities will justly be open to censure, and incur, to their peril, the charge of acting upon principles inconsistent in spirit and effect with the existing alliances."

Brigadier-General Williams writes to the following effect, after referring to an unexpected communication he had received on the subject of slave-dealing, from Ismail Pasha, the Governor-General of Erzeroom:

"The buying and selling of slaves, by the officers of the Kars army, is as notorious as any other mal-practices on their part. Boys are preferred by these brutes, and the girls are sent as bribes to Constantinople; and until the allied Consuls are authorised to demand the restitution of these victims to Turkish sensuality, and are provided with funds to send them back to their families in Georgia, and until the Porte is bound by Treaty to send the culprits, so detected, to the galleys for a certain specified time, this infamous Traffic will flourish; and all which has been said, or may be written, about abolitionary firmans simply adds mockery to crime and woe.

"When I saw Mustapha Pasha quit the camp at Kars, and fawn upon the soldiers drawn out in line to salute him who had robbed and starved them, he was closely followed, and that at noon-day, by two Georgian slaves under an escort of Regular Cavalry. They had been bought the day previous to his departure, and this Traffic was notorious throughout the camp. Your Lordship may, therefore, infer that had the Turks penetrated into Georgia last campaign, very few youths of either sex would have escaped pollution; and I feel bound to tell your Lordship my opinion on this most interesting subject, which is, that if England does not effectually repress this Trade by a stringent Treaty, Russia will accomplish it by her arms; that is, if peace leave her in possession of Georgia."

The Committee have no reason to believe that any improvement has taken place in this dreadful state of things since the foregoing despatches were penned; and seeing that there are so many inducements to evade the prohibitory enactments issued by the Sultan, the Committee would respectfully, but most earnestly, entreat Her Majesty's Government to take advantage of the present opportunity to stipulate, in any Treaty about to be entered into with Turkey, not only for the adoption of measures of the most stringent kind for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves, from whencesoever they may be imported into the Turkish dominions, but also for the immediate abolition of slavery throughout them.

Signed, on behalf of the Committee,

GEO. WM. ALEXANDER, *Chairman.*

LOUIS ALEXIS CHAMEROVZOW, *Secretary.*

27, New Broad Street, March 7 1856.

No. 442.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 29, 1856.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copies of the Slave Trade Returns which have been forwarded to me by Her Majesty's Consul at Tripoli,* showing the number of negroes exported from that port and from Bengazi during the past year; and also a report on the Slave Trade for the same period from the Vice-Consul at Mesurata.

I have caused to be added to these reports statements showing the number of slaves exported from the above-mentioned places in the year

* Inclosures in No. 41".

1854, by which your Excellency will perceive that a great increase has taken place in the Slave Trade at the ports of Tripoli and Bengazi during the year 1855; and I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate these Returns to the Government of the Porte, and to state that they have been received with deep regret by Her Majesty's Government, who are entitled to call upon the Ottoman Government to adopt some stringent measures, in order effectually to prevent this exportation of slaves from Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Albania*.

No. 443.

Consul Saunders to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 14.)

(Extract.)

Prevesa, June 30, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's consideration, copies of two despatches which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople upon the subject of the Traffic in Slaves between Tripoli and the coasts of this Province.

This Traffic, which had long fallen into desuetude, has now assumed a systematic character in this direction; several cargoes having lately arrived, and others being shortly expected to follow.

Your Lordship will learn, from the correspondence annexed, the steps taken, in concert with the Turkish authorities, to render these speculations as onerous as possible to the parties concerned therein.

Your Lordship will also perceive the favourable dispositions manifested by the Pasha in this respect, who, after causing the individuals composing the first of these cargoes to be provisionally sequestered, compelled the second to quit the limits of his jurisdiction altogether, although, unfortunately, the facilities held out in the adjoining Pashalic of Scutari will limit the effects of this impediment to some petty inconvenience and expenses attending such transfer.

It is a fallacy to suppose, that because cases have occurred where individuals, originally slaves, have fortuitously attained distinguished positions in Turkey, that the condition of such persons is usually divested of any of those opprobrious and distressing characters which attach thereto in other parts of the world. The power of the owners, limited by no prescriptions of law, may be exercised to any extent over their slaves, without restraint or responsibility, while the desolating scenes attendant upon their capture and conveyance to the coast, the severing of all bonds of kindred and affection, as circumstances may render most profitable to the speculators, together with other inflictions peculiar to the positions for which such slaves may be designed in Turkish harems, are penalties incurred by the many, for which some rare exceptions among privileged individuals can scarcely be considered to offer any possible equivalent.

Although the Traffic in white slaves from Georgia and Circassia has already been abolished, the shipment of Africans at Tripoli is still invested with all the characters of a mercantile transaction; tariff duties being levied thereon, and Custom-house permits delivered as for all other merchandise.

Inclosure 1 in No. 443.

Consul Saunders to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

(Extract.)

Prevesa, June 9, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that the Trade in black Slaves from Tripoli to the Albanian coast, which had entirely ceased since the proceedings adopted in 1853, has recently assumed very alarming proportions, attributable possibly to anticipated difficulties in other parts of the Empire under the more immediate observance of the naval forces of the allied Powers.

On the 14th of April last a Turkish schooner called the "*Sari Pervas*," Akiff Hussein master, disembarked at Avlona 39 black slaves, from 8 to 17 years of age; 17 being males, and 22 females.

On being made acquainted with this circumstance by reports addressed to the Lord High Commissioner in the Ionian Islands, and to myself, I immediately instructed the British Consular Agent at that port to take measures, in concert with the local authorities, for the purpose of throwing every impediment in the way of the dealer, and thereby rendering the speculation as ruinous as possible to the parties concerned.

I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency herewith, a translated copy of the instructions aforesaid; and while these measures were being carried out on the spot, I also instructed the British Vice-Consul at Janina to urge the Pasha to send orders to the local Governors to sequester such of the slaves as should remain unsold; to demand security from the purchasers in other cases; and to require the dealer to proceed to Janina, to investigate his title, and to establish the fact of his having conveyed these slaves through British protected territory in traversing the Ionian waters, which is not denied.

Izzet Pasha has shown a laudable disposition to discourage this scandalous Traffic, by carrying out all measures suggested to this effect; while the British Consular Agent followed up the dealer (a certain Delhi Bairam Aga, an Arnaout domiciled at Tripoli) from Avlona to Berat, from whence he was sent to Janina by orders from the Pasha to this effect, leaving in charge of the local authorities 12 slaves which had remained unsold; while, on the other hand, the purchasers (among whom was the Mufti of Berat) required that the sum paid by them should be likewise deposited in the custody of the Kaimakam, as a security to themselves against all contingencies.

More recently two other vessels, under the Turkish flag, have disembarked cargoes of slaves in this province, coming from Tripoli; one of these, an Ottoman brig of the burthen of 4,000 kilos, called the "*Albanese*," Omer Hadivi, master, just arrived at Avlona with 49 black slaves, as I am informed by the British Vice-Consular Agent there, who will cause the slaves to be sequestered and the dealers to be sent to Janina, as in the former instance; the second a Dulcignote vessel under the Turkish flag, name not stated, which had landed at Dulcigno 54 black slaves from Tripoli, whereof 20 had been publicly exposed for sale in the bazaar at Scutari, another vessel with slaves being expected there.

The Pasha states that when Governor of Tripoli a few years back, he was often an eye-witness to the extreme sufferings inflicted upon the unfortunate beings brought from the interior for sale, and that, as a warning to the dealers in slaves, he had caused a considerable number to be set free, in consequence of the shameful treatment to which they had been subjected.

The Pasha further stated, that during his many years' residence as Governor of Tripoli, he never purchased a single male slave, being better served by hired attendants, but that he was unable to dispense with females for the service of his harem, whom however he freed after three or four years' service. That caravans of slaves were continually brought to Tripoli, where they were sold as sheep in the market, at from 800 to 1,000 piastres per head; that breeding establishments for slaves also existed at Tripoli, where the children or the parents are sold, as the case

may be; and that the customs duties on export are paid there according to tariff, permits being issued for them as for other merchandise.

Passports, without any fixed destination, are supplied for each slave, which are made over to the purchaser, together with the Custom-house receipt as aforesaid.

I am further informed by the Vice-Consul at Avlona that, among the 12 slaves sequestered at Berat, he found 2 Christians, respecting whom no additional particulars have been furnished. I inclose, however, some extracts from his reports, whereby your Excellency will perceive that the sale of these unfortunate beings is in nowise divested of the melancholy character which attaches thereto in other slave-dealing countries, nor can your Lordship be deficient in evidence as to the barbarous treatment frequently inflicted upon slaves by their masters, for which no law provides any remedy.

I have also to acquaint your Lordship that, a few days back, 2 other slaves were landed here from Tripoli by an Ottoman brig of war; and, although not conveyed for sale in this province, but purchased on commission for a Turkish Bimbashi, and destined for Constantinople, I have succeeded in obtaining from the latter, with the ready cooperation of the local Governor, Hassan Aga, declarations of their freedom in due form, and witnessed by the Cadi, which have been delivered into my hands and sent for consignment to the parties at Arta.

Inclosure 2 in No. 443.

Consul Saunders to Mr. Averbach.

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

Prevesa, April 21, 1855.

YOUR letter of the 17th instant has just reached me, whereby I am informed that a vessel under the Turkish flag, named the "*Sari Pervas*," and commanded by a certain Akiff Hussein, has disembarked at Avlona 50 slaves, from 8 years to 17 years of age, brought from Tripoli, several of whom had been sold on landing, and the remainder were to be conveyed into the interior for a like purpose.

From another report which you addressed to the Secretary of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner in the Ionian Islands, I learn that the assumed owner of these human beings is an Arnaout trader, whose name and residence is not mentioned, so as to enable me to take such steps as may be fitting with respect to him. I observe also that the said Arnaout was preparing to depart, dragging after him the unsold portion of his human cargo to expose it for sale in other markets.

In reply to your request for instructions for your guidance on this occasion, I have to acquaint you that although I am not aware that the orders issued by the Turkish Government are applicable as yet to black slaves, but relate, as it would seem, to Georgian and Circassian slaves exclusively; nevertheless, the British Government not recognising, in the great principle of the abolition of slavery, any differences depending upon shades of complexion, will not fail to exercise its influence in like manner on behalf of the blacks, in order to cancel so foul a stain from countries which it is defending with its armies.

You will, therefore, make known to me the name and residence of the aforesaid Arnaout,* and in the event of his being still at Avlona you will cause him to be summoned in your presence before the Governor and the Local Council, when you will require that he give good security for his personal appearance whenever called for by the Governor of the Province, and that such surety be held responsible for all the proceeds derived from the sale of these unfortunate beings; that the Governor be required to take down the names of the purchasers, and the prices of sale;

* A certain Deli Bairam Aga, domiciled at Tripoli.

and that the Arnaout merchant be compelled, before effecting any such sale, to present the purchaser before the Governor, that these particulars may be duly registered; and that it be intimated to any such purchaser that he must give a declaration engaging to hold such slave or slaves disposable for whatever may be the eventual decision of his Government upon this head. You will hold the Governor responsible for any neglect in this respect, having to account to his superiors for his proceedings.

Should the Arnaout have already left, you will ascertain the direction he has taken, and, according to circumstances, you will apply to the Kaimakam of Berat, the Governor of Elbassan, or others, to the same effect, requiring that, in default of security as aforesaid, the dealer should not be allowed to proceed further, nor make any sales upon the spot, but remain under the strict observation of the local police.

Similar steps taken here some years back in concert with the Provincial Governor, Ismail Pasha, have succeeded in putting a stop to such Trade in this neighbourhood.

You will acquaint me with all particulars of your proceedings in this respect, and you will endeavour to ascertain, from some of the slaves sold, from whence they were conveyed to the coast, together with the details of the circumstances under which they were taken into captivity; and you will also ascertain where they were embarked in the Province of Tripoli, and at what prices purchased there. You will also inform me whether the customs' duties which the Turkish Government levies on such produce, figuring in its Custom-house tariffs, under the head of "Articles, the produce of the soil and manufacture of the Ottoman Empire, not comprised in the tariffs of friendly Powers," were paid at Avlona, or at the place of embarkation; and you will transmit to me one of the usual attestations delivered to this effect by the Custom-house officials, permitting such merchandise to be conveyed from place to place, and which are issued separately for distribution among the purchasers.

Inclosure 3 in No. 443.

Consul Saunders to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

(Extract.)

Prevesa, June 28, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 9th instant, upon the subject of three cargoes of slaves conveyed from Tripoli to Avlona and Scutari, for sale, and the steps taken, in concert with the authorities, for the purpose of discouraging this iniquitous Traffic, I have now the honour to acquaint your Excellency that in the first of these cases, the slaves, sold and unsold, 39 in all, have been sequestered, the former in the hands of the purchasers at Avlona and Beratti, the purchase-money being deposited with the Kaimakam, and the latter, 12 in number, being detained in the custody of the authorities until further orders; that in the second case, the slaves, consisting of 48, having been stopped at Avlona, the Pasha has prohibited the sale of these unfortunate beings within the limits of his jurisdiction, ordering the dealer to re-embark his human cargo, and depart for some other destination; in the third case, however, the Pasha of Scutari having permitted the sale in the open market, free from any restrictions whatever, the slaves now about to be sent away from Avlona will be conveyed to Scutari, the proprietor having sent expressly to Dulcigno, for a Turkish vessel to transport them thither.

No. 444.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Saunders.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 19, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th ultimo, respecting the revival of the Traffic in Slaves between Tripoli and the coasts of Albania; and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government

entirely approve the proceedings taken by you in concert with the Turkish authorities for the purpose of throwing every impediment in the way of the dealers concerned in the three cargoes of slaves mentioned in your despatch.

You will express to Izzet Pasha the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt his humane endeavours to put a stop to this abominable Traffic.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 445.

Consul Saunders to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 18.)

My Lord,

Prevesa, August 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 19th ultimo, expressing your Lordship's approval of the proceedings taken in concert with the Turkish authorities, for thwarting the operations of certain dealers in slaves, and instructing me to express to Izzet Pasha the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at his laudable cooperation in this respect.

I have now to acquaint your Lordship, that almost contemporaneously with the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, a Grand Vizirial order reached Izzet Pasha, in reply to the representations which he had made to his Government upon this subject, whereby Aali Pasha, while approving his Excellency's proceedings as tending to relieve the Porte from much embarrassment, further announces that the sale of this description of slaves is henceforth abolished by a recent Imperial Order.

The Order herein referred to has not yet been received, but I inclose, for your Lordship's information, translation of the Grand Vizirial letter whereby this prohibition is notified to Izzet Pasha.

I likewise transmit to your Lordship copy of the letter which I have addressed to Izzet Pasha, in accordance with your Lordship's instructions as aforesaid, while congratulating him also on the happy effects of his representations to the Imperial Government on the subject.

In pursuance of the Grand Vizier's directions, the 12 slaves who remained unsold and sequestered at Beratti, are to be forthwith liberated, a small compensation being made to the dealers computed at prime cost, and to be raised by subscription.

I have suggested to Izzet Pasha that the same measure should be extended to their companions previously sold, and waiting under sureties the decision of the Government, respecting whom nothing is said.

I have further to acquaint your Lordship that, with the view of preventing the dealers from finding another ready market, on expulsion from this province under the order previously issued to this effect, I instructed the British Vice-Consul at Scutari, whither the slaves were about to be conveyed, to urge the new Governor of that province, Aghia Pasha, to follow the example which Izzet Pasha had already set, by extending this prohibition to all ports within his jurisdiction; or, failing this, to carry into effect, in concert with the authorities, the same system of impediments pointed out in my instructions to the Vice-Consul at Avlona, as already communicated to your Lordship.

In the execution of these instructions, Vice-Consul Bonatti exhibited much zeal and ability; and Aghia Pasha, equally favourably disposed with Izzet Pasha, at once issued an order for the prohibition of this Traffic within the limits of his jurisdiction, without waiting for special instructions in the matter.

A translated copy of this last-mentioned order is likewise annexed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SIDNEY SMITH SAUNDERS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 445.

Vizirial Letter addressed to Izzet Pasha.

(Translation.)

Excellency,

19 Schewal, 1271. (July 5, 1855.)

THE letter addressed by your Excellency to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, has been communicated to me, together with your private letter, upon the subject of your proceedings as regards the representations made by the British Consul at Janina, and the British Vice-Consul at Avlona, for prohibiting the sale of a certain number of male and female slaves which the slave-merchant, Bairam Aga, conveyed from Tripoli, of Barbary, to the district of Avlona, and requesting instructions in the matter.

According to your Excellency's report, the aforesaid Aga had sold some of these male and female slaves at Avlona, and others at Berat; and although this took place without his knowing that it had been determined to prohibit this Trade in Slaves, it is now notorious that by a recent Imperial Order the sale of this description of slaves is forbidden.

While, however, on the one hand, the permission to sell these slaves would give rise to much embarrassing discussion, yet, on the other hand, it would be contrary to the principles of justice and equity that the proprietor should suffer in the matter; and as, moreover, the slaves remaining unsold are few in number, whose value may be computed at about as many thousand piastres,* by making a calculation to this effect, and by your Excellency setting the example to the other functionaries of the Government and principal inhabitants of the province, the collection of the required amount may be readily effected by subscription. Thus these unfortunate beings will be emancipated from slavery, and the lustre and magnificence of the Ottoman dignity and philanthropy will be raised more conspicuously in the estimation of foreign Powers, whereby additional merit will be due to your Excellency.

You will therefore endeavour, by the satisfactory termination of these proceedings, to avoid any further embarrassments in this respect, which is confided to your Excellency's enlightened judgment and discretion.

Inclosure 2 in No. 445.

Consul Saunders to Izzet Pasha.

Excellency,

Prevesa, July 31, 1855.

HER Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, by a despatch bearing date the 19th instant, has instructed me to express to your Excellency the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt your humane endeavours to put a stop to the abominable Traffic in Slaves.

I have at the same to offer my sincere congratulations for the successful result which has attended your Excellency's representations to the Imperial Government upon this subject, as by the Grand Vizirial Order which your Excellency has lately received, from which it appears not only that the laudable desire which your Excellency has exhibited to anticipate the benevolent intentions of the Porte in this respect, has been duly appreciated, but that His Imperial Majesty has now been induced to extend to all parts of the Empire, by a recent determination, the beneficial effects of those measures first adopted by your Excellency for the prohibition of this iniquitous Traffic, and which cannot fail to redound to the credit of the Ottoman Government as an evidence of its desire to carry out those views of civilization and social progress which will best serve to cement its European alliances, and strengthen its claims to the friendship and support of the Western Powers.

I avail, &c.

Signed)

SIDNEY SMITH SAUNDERS.

* 1,000 piastres equal to 8*l.* 10*s.* per head. Selling price 2,000 to 2,500 piasters.—S. S. S.

Inclosure 3 in No. 445.

Aghia Pasha to the British Vice-Consul at Scutari.

(Translation.)

July 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your letter whereby you request me to prohibit the sale of black slaves, male and female, placing restrictions upon the buyers and sellers thereof. Although I had already, upon your verbal representations, summoned to my presence the buyers and sellers, before receiving your letter upon the subject, giving positive orders not to dispose of those which remained unsold, nevertheless, after receiving your communication, I summoned them afresh, reiterating the most stringent orders as to the prohibition to sell those who still remained in their possession.

I have also taken a copy of the Teskeré of the Custom-house of Tripoli, with the names of the buyers and sellers, a copy of which I have registered.

I have further sent orders to the authorities of Dulcigno and Antivari, to prevent henceforth the sale of black slaves.

(Signed)

AGHIA PASHA.

No. 446.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Saunders.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 24, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 4th instant, and I have to state to you that I approve your further proceedings with the object of checking the Traffic in Slaves within the limits of your Consulate; and I have to instruct you again to communicate to Izzet Pasha the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt his continued cooperation with you for that purpose.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 447.

Consul Saunders to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 8.)

My Lord,

Prevesa, August 25, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 4th instant, communicating to your Lordship translated copy of the Grand Vizirial order which had been received by the Governor of this province, in reply to his representations respecting the trade in negro slaves, together with copy of the letter which I had addressed to Izzet Pasha, in conformity with your Lordship's instructions, expressing the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government had learnt his humane endeavours to put a stop to this abominable Traffic, I have now the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, translation (from the Turkish) of the reply received from Izzet Pasha upon this head.

I have further to acquaint your Lordship that, availing myself of the occasion of the departure from hence of a steamer with troops for Tripoli, and of my personal acquaintance with the Governor of that province, formerly stationed in a similar capacity here, I thought it desirable to make known to the latter the tenour of the orders emanated upon this subject, to prevent the renewal of such expeditions from thence, under the possibility of his having been left uninformed in this respect.

Copy of my letter to this effect, forwarded under flying seal to Colonel Herman, is herewith submitted.

I am not, indeed, aware that any instructions in this matter have

been communicated to the Governors of Scutari and Durazzo in Upper Albania, beyond the jurisdiction of Izzet Pasha, although the former of these has, nominally at least, been induced to issue such a prohibition on his own responsibility; so that it may be questionable whether any general orders in this sense have been circulated in other directions. The absence, moreover, of any intimation thereof from Her Majesty's Ambassador, as in the case of Georgian and Circassian slaves, would scarcely appear to warrant such a belief.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SIDNEY SMITH SAUNDERS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 447.

Izzet Pasha to Consul Saunders.

(Translation.)

After compliments.

Janina, 29 Zilkadé, 1271. (August 13, 1855.)

HIS Imperial Majesty, my august Master, in his sovereign justice, inspired with a natural desire to promote the prosperity and happiness of all classes of his subjects, and anxious to extend the benefits of his paternal care and clemency to those who from time immemorial have been bought and sold as slaves, has caused his supreme commands upon this head to be communicated to me by a Grand Vizirial letter, declaring that this iniquitous Traffic is prohibited throughout the Empire, as was already the case at Constantinople.

In my position as Governor of Epirus, by His Imperial Majesty's gracious favour, I have carried these orders into effect, by prohibiting the Trade in Slaves. On the other hand, his Excellency the Right Honourable Minister for Foreign Affairs of Her Britannic Majesty having been pleased to express his high satisfaction at my proceedings in this respect, as by the communication which you have been charged to make to this effect, I beg to convey to his Excellency the assurance of my deepest gratitude for this flattering testimonial on his part. The satisfaction, however, so experienced by his Excellency, and the honour conferred upon me in consequence, being attributable to your representations in the matter, I must also tender you my special thanks for the same, while availing, &c.

(Signed) IZZET AHMED.

Inclosure 2 in No. 447.

Consul Saunders to Mustapha Pasha.

(Extract.)

Prevesa, August 23, 1855.

THE friendship which has so long subsisted between us, induces me to avail myself of the return to Tripoli of the Major-General Ahmed Pasha, to address your Excellency upon a subject involving many important considerations, affecting, on the one hand, the dignity and best interests of the Sublime Porte, and, on the other, the condition of a vast multitude of human beings, on whose behalf His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, with his accustomed generosity, has been pleased to manifest his sovereign clemency.

Your Excellency must be cognisant of the orders emanated from the Imperial Government prohibiting the inhuman Traffic in Slaves, a matter in which Her Britannic Majesty's Government takes the deepest interest.

During the last few months, however, several vessels conveying slaves for sale in this province, have arrived from Tripoli, which speculations, so far from proving profitable to the traders, have involved them in considerable embarrassments, and no small pecuniary loss.

I now beg to communicate to your Excellency certified copy of a letter upon this subject, recently addressed to me by the Governor of this province, Izzet Pasha, whereby your Excellency will perceive that, in conformity with the determination of His Imperial Majesty, positive orders

have been given to put a stop to this Traffic; a similar measure having also been adopted on other parts of this coast, beyond the jurisdiction of the Governor of Janina.

I deem it fitting to bring these facts to your Excellency's knowledge, in order that proper warning may be given to all parties who should so degrade themselves as to seek to profit by such infamous and illicit gains, that they may avoid incurring the necessary consequences of any further transgressions of the kind; while fully persuaded that your Excellency will rejoice in exercising the authority with which you are invested, by strictly enforcing this prohibition on behalf of suffering humanity, in accordance with the earnest desire of the Government of Great Britain, and in pursuance of His Imperial Majesty's commands.

No. 448.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Saunders.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 15, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th ultimo, and I have to inform you that I approve of your having addressed the Governor of Tripoli on the subject of the orders given by the Porte for the suppression of Slave Trade in the Ottoman dominions.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Candia*.

No. 449.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Ongley.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 16, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, inclosing a copy of a Vizirial letter by which the Pasha of Tripoli is directed to put a stop to any Traffic in Slaves between the territory under his government and the Island of Candia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 450.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 7.)

My Lord,

Canea, in Crete, May 12, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch which I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

Inclosure in No. 450.

Consul Ongley to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

(Extract.)

Canea, in Crete, May 12, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to address your Lordship for the purpose of saying that, a few days ago, the Turkish schooner "*Rahmaniya*," Tahir Mesinoglee, master, of about only eighty tons burthen, arrived from Bengazi with 368 slaves on board, with which she was to proceed to Constantinople, after landing here whatever number the slave-owner could find purchasers for.

No. 451.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 30.)

My Lord,

Canea, in Crete, July 13, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, inclosed, copy of a despatch which I have addressed to the Governor of this island; from it, it will be seen that the orders of the Porte to the Pasha of Tripoli to put a stop to any Traffic in Slaves between the territory under his government and the Island of Candia, are not being carried out.

* Class B, presented 1855, No. 587.

The Pasha here had the masters of the vessels questioned, and they stated that the duty had been paid on the slaves at Bengazi, as usual, and that the only difficulty they experienced was, that a small number only were allowed to be shipped by each vessel.

Our Pasha has sent to Constantinople a copy of my letter to him on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

Inclosure in No. 451.

Consul Ongley to Emin Pasha.

Sir,

Canea, in Crete, July 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour of addressing your Excellency for the purpose of stating that, under date of the 29th Djemaji-ul-Akhir, 1271, the Sublime Porte addressed a Vizirial letter to the Pasha of Tripoli, in Barbary, of which translation is inclosed, directing him to prevent the export of black slaves from Africa to this island. I have just learnt that the Ottoman brigantine "*Geilan Bahri*," Captain Hassan Hassan, having on board 20 slaves, and the Ottoman schooner "*Jupra*," Captain Ali Mustafa, having 14 slaves, have arrived at this port from Bengazi; and that these slaves have come consigned to Said Hajad, Hussein Giuda, Ramadan Aga, and Sinavis, merchants of this city.

As it is evident that these slaves have been embarked at Bengazi contrary to the orders and wishes of the Sublime Porte, I take the liberty to draw the attention of your Excellency to it, with the hope that your Excellency will take such steps as may be necessary to punish the offenders.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

No. 452.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Ongley.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 6, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th July, and I have in reply to inform you that I approve the note which you addressed on the 10th July to the Governor of Crete, on the subject of several recent infractions of the orders issued by the Porte prohibiting the exportation of slaves from Tripoli to that island.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 453.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 17.)

My Lord,

Canea, in Crete, June 18, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 16th of May, I have the honour to state, that the Ottoman brigantine "*Hairli*," of about 125 tons burthen, Captain Ahmed Suleiman, having on board a crew of 10 men and 80 passengers, most of whom were slaves, left Tripoli, in Barbary, about the 23rd May, with her papers made out for Mytilene. She put in here on the 11th June, and on the 13th proceeded on her voyage with only 77 passengers instead of 80; but I have not learnt whether the 3 who were left here were slaves, but I think it probable they were not.

As the Sublime Porte has ordered that the Trade in Slaves between

the Pashalic of Tripoli and Crete is to be prevented, it is reasonable to suppose that it would not object to put a stop to the exportation of slaves from the Pashalic of Tripoli to other parts of the Ottoman dominions. I have therefore taken the liberty to bring the above-mentioned case to the knowledge of your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

No. 451.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received September 24.*)

My Lord, *Canea, in Crete, July 27, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Ottoman schooner "*Zaffer Deria*," Captain Mehmet Ladacchi, arrived in this port last night from Bengazi in Barbary, having on board 24 passengers, of whom 4 are slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

No. 455.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received September 24.*)

My Lord, *Canea, in Crete, August 8, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that another Ottoman schooner named the "*Mabruca*," Captain Hiavan Ali, has put into this port, from Tripoli, bound to Smyrna, having on board 55 slaves, the property of the captain.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

No. 456.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received November 10.*)

My Lord, *Canea, in Crete, September 7, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Ottoman brig "*Selim*," Captain Ismail Zentiotte, from Tripoli, in Barbary, bound to Mytilene, put into this port this morning, having on board 23 slaves, and that a few days ago another Ottoman vessel arrived here from Bengazi, having on board 7 slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

No. 457.

Consul Ongley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received November 10.*)

My Lord, *Canea, in Crete, September 11, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Ottoman brigantine named the "*Selim*," Captain Said Bukra, arrived in this port to-day from Mesurata, in the Regency of Tripoli, bound for Alexandria, having on board 48 passengers, of which 33 are black slaves, one-half of which I hear are to be landed here for sale.

I am informed that as many as 3,000 slaves have been exported from the Regency of Tripoli to Alexandria this year: no doubt this statement is exaggerated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Rhodes*.

No. 458.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 16.)

My Lord,

Rhodes, June 30, 1855.

HAVING recently received a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Newton, at Mytilene, relative to the Trade in Slaves carried on in Turkish vessels between Tripoli, Crete, and Constantinople, I do myself the honour to transmit herewith copy thereof for your Lordship's information.

I have forwarded copy of the same to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and to Sir Edmund Lyons.

Waiting your Lordship's instructions for my guidance in this matter, I have, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 458.

Vice-Consul Newton to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Mytilene, June 22, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that, in the course of the last three months, there have appeared in the port of Mytilene the following vessels, bearing the Ottoman flag, all with cargoes of black slaves from the African coast:—

1. *April 15, 1855.*—The brig "*Marsala*," 3,500 kilos, Captain Mohamed, with 49 negresses and young negroes from Tripoli.

2. *April 15, 1855.*—The schooner "*Mavraga*," 2,500 kilos, Captain Mohamed Caraïs, with 43 negresses and young negroes from Tripoli.

3. *May 14, 1855.*—The schooner "*Rachmanie*," Captain Tahir Bey, 3,500 kilos, with 71 negresses and young negroes from Crete.

4. *June 2, 1855.*—The brig "*Masaouh*," 10,100 kilos, Captain Hadji Mohamed, from Crete, with 120 negresses and young negroes.

Some of these slaves were, I believe, sold here; the remainder were sent on to Constantinople.

Mytilene has always been an *entrepôt* for slaves imported from the African coast, and is preferred, for this purpose, to Smyrna or the Dardanelles, probably because the Custom-dues are not so heavy. The commerce in slaves has much diminished within the last two or three years.

I cannot learn to whom the cargoes of slaves in the above list were consigned here. I am informed that it is usual for the owner to make the voyage with the cargo, in which case no consignee would be necessary.

I have no reason to suspect that Europeans or Christian subjects of the Porte have been concerned in the Slave Trade here.

Mr. Vice-Consul Werry, on his visit to Mytilene some days ago, stated that the firman prohibiting the exportation of slaves from Bengazi

for the future had been promulgated in that place; but the Pasha here informs me that no prohibition relative to the exportation of slaves from the African coast has been officially communicated to him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. J. NEWTON.

No. 459.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 23.)

My Lord, *Rhodes, July 7, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copy of a despatch which I have this day addressed to his Excellency Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 459.

Consul Campbell to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

My Lord, *Rhodes, July 7, 1855.*

I DO myself the honour to report to your Excellency that the Turkish merchant-brig schooner "*Massaud*," 2,000 kilos burthen, Omer Leshib, Captain, arrived here on the 3rd instant. She is from Tripoli, in Barbary, bound to Smyrna, having a cargo of slaves on board, to the number of 73; 8 of which have been sold at this place.

I have spoken to the Governor-General of these islands, respecting the Traffic in Slaves now carrying on between the coast of Barbary and several of the ports in Turkey. He informs me that he can take no measures to prevent it, as he has no instructions on the subject.

In a despatch which I received lately from Mr. Vice-Consul Newton, under date of the 30th June last, he reports, that on the 25th of that month, a brig arrived at Mytilene, Suleiman, Captain, from Tripoli, with 70 negroes and negresses on board, which at that time were in depôt at Mytilene.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT CAMPBELL.

No. 460.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 6.)

My Lord, *Rhodes, July 17, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the Ottoman merchant-schooner "*Massauda*," Salah Zeitun, Captain, arrived here, bound to Smyrna, with 63 slaves on board, from Tripoli of Barbary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT CAMPBELL.

UNITED STATES.

No. 461.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 20, 1856.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith the accompanying copy of a despatch* from Mr. Morgan, Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, reporting the capture by a Brazilian cruizer of the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," with 387 slaves on board, and I have to instruct you to communicate the facts of this case to the United States' Secretary of State, and to draw his attention to the previous representations of the same nature which you have had occasion to address to the United States' Government, showing the systematic abuse of the flag and vessels of the United States by persons engaged in committing the piratical crime of slave-trading.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 162.

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Boston.*

No. 462.

Consul Grattan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 1.)

My Lord,

Boston, September 15, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that a schooner sailing under the American flag, called the "*Mary E. Smith*," cleared from this port for Monte Video on the 24th ultimo, under circumstances leading to a suspicion that she was intended for the Slave Trade.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to detain the vessel after she had left the port.

Mr. Peaslee, the Collector of Customs at Boston, has kindly furnished me with a memorandum of the facts of the case, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy herewith, and he informs me that the occurrence was at once reported at Washington, with a view to its being communicated to the United States' authorities in South America, by whom all necessary measures will no doubt be taken.

I beg leave to add, that the pilot who took the schooner to sea has been held to answer to the charge of aiding in the escape of the vessel.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND A. GRATTAN.

Inclosure in No. 462.

Memorandum.

THE schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," 122 $\frac{7}{10}$ tons burthen, Vincent D. Cranatich, master and sole owner, left this port on the night of August 25, and proceeded to sea, under circumstances which led to the suspicion of her being designed for the Slave Trade.

The vessel, heretofore employed as a packet between this port and Halifax, Nova Scotia, and recently transferred to Cranatich, who claims to be a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Dennisonville, Louisiana, cleared at the custom-house at this port on Friday, August 24, in ballast, for Monte Video. Deeming a clearance for that port in ballast unusual, the Collector directed an officer to examine the vessel, to see if her cargo corresponded with her manifest, and to keep strict watch upon her movements. From facts brought to the knowledge of the Collector on the Saturday following, he considered it his duty to consult with the Attorney of the United States, by whom a complaint was drawn up against the master and mate for fitting out a vessel to be engaged in the Slave Trade. In the course of the afternoon a warrant was placed in the hands of the United States' Marshal for the arrest, and a Custom-house Inspector was directed to make a seizure of the vessel. Before these officers were able to execute their directions, however, the schooner had left the dock, and was making her way out of the harbour. They succeeded in overtaking her at some distance from port, but their autho-

rity was disputed by the officers of the vessel; their orders for her to heave-to disregarded: and being unsupported by sufficient force to warrant a forcible attempt at her detention, they were obliged to abandon the vessel, which immediately put to sea.

The explanation offered by Cranatich, and repeated by his friends in this city, for his haste to leave, and refusal to comply with the demands of the officers charged with his detention, was, the Collector understands, that he had contracted to carry the mails from Monte Video to some port, and eighty days only remained for its commencement under the terms of his contract, and that it was, therefore, of the utmost importance that he should experience no delay. It was to expedite the departure and passage of the vessel, his friends affirm, that she cleared "in ballast."

No. 463.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Grattan.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, October 12, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a memorandum which you had received from Mr. Peaslee, the Collector of Customs at Boston, respecting the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," which cleared from that port on the 24th of August, under circumstances leading to a suspicion that she was intended for the Slave Trade.

I have to instruct you to acknowledge with thanks the praiseworthy motives which induced Mr. Peaslee to address this communication to you.

No. 464.

Consul Grattan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 4.)

(Extract.)

Boston, November 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 12th of October last, instructing me to thank Mr. Peaslee, the Collector of Customs at this port, for the memorandum relative to the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," furnished to me by him, and of which a copy was transmitted in my despatch to your Lordship of the 15th of September last.

I have the honour to report to your Lordship that I have not failed to inform Mr. Peaslee of your Lordship's sense of the civility displayed by him in this matter.

I have the honour further to state that I have communicated to Rear-Admiral Fanshawe at Halifax, and to Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, all the facts relative to the "*Mary E. Smith*" within my knowledge; and I beg leave to state that I reported the particulars of that case, together with a copy of the Collector's memorandum, to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington in a despatch dated the 15th of September last.

No. 465.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Grattan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 18th ultimo, I have to state to you that I approve the further steps taken by you respecting the information you had received of the suspicious character of the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND BRAZIL

RESPECTING THE

SLAVE TRADE.

*Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of
their Address dated July 21, 1856.*

LONDON :

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RETURN to an Address of the House of Lords, dated July 21, 1856;
for—

“Copies of any Correspondence that has lately taken place between Her Majesty’s Government, or the British Envoy at Rio de Janeiro, and the Brazilian Government, on the subject of the Slave Trade.”

No. 1.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Cowper.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 18, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th ultimo,* reporting further particulars respecting the importation of Africans at Serinhaem in October last.

Her Majesty’s Government have not as yet sufficient means of judging how far the statement of Colonel Drummond is correct; but assuming that you are convinced that it is so, I have to instruct you to convey to that gentleman the cordial thanks of Her Majesty’s Government for the part that he has taken in exposing this most criminal transaction, and in endeavouring to avert from Brazil the disgrace of reviving the Slave Trade.

No. 2.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 12.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, March 14, 1856.

I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of two despatches† from your Lordship, dated January the 9th, which only reached me by the “Tay” on the 6th instant.

By one of those despatches I see that the conduct of Her Majesty’s Consul at Pernambuco in the Serinhaem Slave Trade affair, has been fully approved of by Her Majesty’s Government.

By the other I am instructed that, if I should find that the Imperial Government are inactive with regard to this business, and should not be disposed to discover or punish persons concerned in this or any other similar act of Slave Trade, I should inform the Brazilian Government that Her Majesty’s Government would be obliged again to put in force the provisions of the Act of Parliament of 1845.

I am sorry to say that nearly every post brings me letters and despatches from Pernambuco complaining of the manner in which the authorities there are proceeding in dealing with this Slave Trade transaction, and in the way they have been pursuing for the recovery of the stolen blacks.

The last communication I received from Her Majesty’s Consul was on the 1st of March, and he then tells me, “this Government is doing nothing, or as little as possible, to recover the stolen Africans, and if this state of things continues, I shall certainly address the President again.”

In your Lordship’s despatch of the 17th January,‡ you say that you had received a communication from Mr. Cowper, dated 19th of December, stating that the prosecution of the parties implicated in the Serinhaem Slave Trade matter “was by no means carried on with good faith or vigour,” and your Lordship instructs me to impress upon the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the very serious nature of this case, in which the local authorities seem to be gravely implicated, and to call upon the Brazilian Government to use every effort to prevent the revival of the Slave Trade.

By reference to my late despatches, your Lordship, no doubt, will give me credit for having continually brought this subject before the Imperial Government, and several long notes have passed between this Legation and Senhor Paranhos, blaming the local authorities and indicating the evident want of care when the circumstance occurred.

* See Slave Trade Papers presented 1856, Class B, No. 183. † Ibid., Nos. 123 and 124.

‡ Ibid., No. 133.

In the several Conferences which I have had with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, his Excellency has invariably taken great care to defend the President and authorities of Pernambuco, and has given himself much trouble in trying to prove that what has been done there was satisfactory to his Government.

I have even shown to Senhor Paranhos Mr. Consul Cowper's private letter to me, in order that he might know fully what was the opinion of Her Majesty's Consul with regard to the President and authorities of Pernambuco; in fact nothing has been omitted, even reports have not been kept from his Excellency's knowledge which might aid the Imperial Government in getting a clue to a right and just view of the case.

All this has constantly been met with assurances that what I produced to his Excellency's consideration was erroneous and unfounded, and his Excellency has long ago declared to me that the Imperial Government were resolved to prosecute and punish any delinquent, however high his rank might be, that should transgress their laws in this respect.

I must say that I was inclined to believe that the Central Government would act in that firm and energetic manner of which they are certainly capable, if they choose, in ordering the civil and judicial authorities of Pernambuco to recover the stolen slaves and prosecute the real offenders in the whole transaction.

This is the reason why I told your Lordship that the Government had entered seriously into the investigation, and perhaps they may have done much, although the President of Pernambuco and others appear to have badly carried out the orders from head-quarters.

However, when I was furnished with your Lordship's instructions, contained in your despatch of the 9th of January, to be acted on under certain contingencies, and I still found that Mr. Cowper reported unfavourably of the Serinhaem affair, as I have above stated, and bearing also in mind the contents of your Lordship's despatch of January 17, I came to the conclusion that it was my duty to send in a note to the Imperial Government, warning them of the consequences which would inevitably follow if they did not compel their authorities at Pernambuco to do their duty.

I beg now to submit to your Lordship the inclosed copy of my note to Senhor Paranhos, embodying, word for word, the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of January 9.

The day before yesterday his Excellency sent to invite me to a conference, and I found him ready to receive me.

His Excellency told me that the note which I had addressed to them was violent, unjust, and harsh; that by the terms which I had employed in this and another, claiming justice for the mate of a British vessel, Charles Lucas, I had treated them as an uncivilised people; and that by threatening them with the Aberdeen Bill, I had considered them as if they were not an independent nation. His Excellency said he was the more surprised at it because the relations between the two Governments, especially in Slave Trade matters, had been of the most intimate kind; and he appealed to the efforts which the Brazilian Government had made, and were making, to put down the Traffic. Had they not captured the "*Mary E. Smith*," and taken all sorts of means to frustrate attempts of the slave-traders, &c.; and had he not made me acquainted with what the Imperial Government had done at Pernambuco, &c.? And yet, notwithstanding all this, although I had even applauded their proceedings in the case of the "*Mary E. Smith*," Her Majesty's Legation had, by the note which his Government had received, treated Brazil as the last of nations, and had suspended the "sword of Damocles" over their heads, to which his Excellency compared the provisions of the Bill of 1845.

I produced your Lordship's despatch of the 9th January, and also the despatch in which you had approved of Mr. Cowper's conduct. I told his Excellency that your Lordship's despatch of the 9th January ought to have arrived a month sooner, and likewise that respecting Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco; and in order that his Excellency might be clearly impressed with the view which Her Majesty's Government had taken with regard to the Serinhaem prosecution, I caused his Excellency to read your Lordship's despatch of the 17th January. I also cited my last communication from Mr. Cowper, upon the fruitless attempt at recovering the stolen blacks,

and I told his Excellency that I had heard that there were communications which had arrived from Pernambuco on these affairs, that the "Jornal do Commercio" had declined publishing; nor did I omit to draw his Excellency's attention to a passage which I pointed out in a letter from Mr. Drummond to a friend, stating that the reason why the Minister of Justice refused to dismiss the Chief of the Police was, that he did not wish to appear to yield to the exigencies of the British Legation.

After making his Excellency acquainted with these communications, I informed him, that as I had received the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 9th January, and was to act upon them if necessary, and that as the present manner of proceeding in the Serinhaem affair appeared to me to afford a sufficient ground for so doing, I had accordingly addressed to him the note of which he complained as being harsh, violent and unjust. That as for their wish to prevent Slave Trade, and for the way in which the Brazilian Government had acted elsewhere, I had given them due credit; and I assured his Excellency that my note had been written exclusively in consequence of the unsatisfactory state of things at Pernambuco, for the Brazilian Government had the power to make their subordinates do their duty if they chose to exercise it.

Senhor Paranhos said that I did not know what the Imperial Government had done, and how difficult it was for them to discover the culprits, one especially whom I had particularised, named "Chico Caçador," (Cavalcanti Wanderley,) who was concealed; and that they had even determined upon appointing a special Auditor of Marine for the Serinhaem business.

To this I replied, that I looked to the results, and that up to the present time there had been no one convicted, although some time had elapsed since this affair occurred; and I asked his Excellency if the Imperial Government were perfectly satisfied with President Bento de Figueredo.

Senhor Paranhos replied, that at first the President had shown a good deal of energy, and wanted to dismiss the Chief of Police at the commencement, but that the conduct of the latter had been explained, and the President had not done so; but his Excellency did not answer my question entirely, although satisfactorily, for he even went so far as to observe, when proclaiming the active and stringent measures of this Government, "Who knows but that the President may not be dismissed?"

Senhor Paranhos seemed inclined to place all the weight of his complaints upon my shoulders, in consequence of the note I had sent into him. I told his Excellency that I should not mind accepting it; however, I begged him to observe that I had done so in pursuance of conditional instructions. Then, said he, "C'est de Milord Clarendon que j'ai à me plaindre."

In winding up this conversation, Senhor Paranhos begged of me to report it to your Lordship, and to inform you that the Brazilian Government will prove by facts how unjust we have been towards them. This, I told his Excellency, I was very glad to hear.

Senhor Paranhos also remarked that he had not time to answer my note for transmission by this mail, but should do so later; however, not in the same hard terms in which I had addressed his Government.

Senhor Paranhos informed me that Avellar, the Portuguese who is said to have promoted the Serinhaem Slave Trade transaction, has been sent out of the Brazilian Empire.

His Excellency adduced, as a proof of the strictness and severity which his Government had enforced in Slave Trade matters, that the Portuguese Government had complained of the severe manner in which Portuguese subjects in Brazil, accused of Slave Trade, had been treated.

The great majority of slave-traders, and of those involved in those inhuman speculations, are nearly always Portuguese, and not many native Brazilians are given to these practices, the planters excepted, who, until of late, did not think that there was any great harm in purchasing Bozal negroes.

P.S.—*March 15.* Senhor Paranhos has just sent to inform me that the Delegate of Serinhaem had forwarded to the President of Pernambuco 10 of the stolen Africans, who were found concealed in the woods on the Taitinga sugar estate belonging to the Carmelite friars.

Inclosure in No. 2.

*Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos.**Rio de Janeiro, March 7, 1856.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to state to his Excellency Senhor José Maria da Silva Paranhos, &c., that he has learnt, with pain and disappointment, that the course taken by the Imperial Government and the Imperial authorities, in recovering the Africans who were stolen at Serinhaem, and in following up the prosecution of the real individuals implicated in the whole of that Slave Trade affair, is far from being satisfactory, and in consequence of instructions which the Undersigned has received from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, who have approved of the conduct and zeal which Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Cowper, manifested upon the above attempt at slave-trading, the Undersigned begs to intimate to the Brazilian Government, that if they do not use their utmost efforts in discovering the real aggressors in this or any other similar acts of slave-trading, and in prosecuting them with all the vigour of the law, and in punishing all such as have been engaged in such Slave Trade transactions, the British Government will be obliged again to put in force the provisions of the Act of Parliament of the year 1845, and that while British cruisers will exercise on the coast, in the rivers, and in the harbours, of Brazil that watchfulness and activity which the agents and officers of the Brazilian Government neglect to use, British Courts of Justice will pronounce those sentences of condemnation from which Brazilian Courts may be found to shrink.

The Undersigned, after so many assurances on the part of the Imperial Government that they were using their utmost vigilance and energy to suppress Slave Trade and to punish offenders, regrets that the lax and unsatisfactory manner of the proceedings in the Province of Pernambuco should occasion him to be obliged to signify to the Imperial Government the line of conduct which Her Majesty's Government will infallibly adopt in crushing and extinguishing all Slave Trade transactions, if the Imperial Government do not command and force their own authorities to do their duty.

The Undersigned hopes, therefore, that the Imperial Government, out of a sense of their own dignity and position in this hemisphere, will not allow themselves to be deceived by a state of inaction or by the supine conduct of their subordinates, which, if persisted in, will inevitably betray this country into difficulties with a Power which considers it to be its imperious duty, in consequence of the obligations to which Brazil stands so deeply pledged for the total abolition of the Slave Trade by the Treaty of the 23rd of November, 1826, to call upon the Imperial Government to fulfil their engagements in the most honourable and complete manner, and if this be not the case, to have recourse to those means which Great Britain has a perfect right to adopt.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 3.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 12.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, March 19, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th January last, authorising me to convey the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government to Colonel Vasconcellos Drummond, in the event of my being satisfied that his statement respecting the Serinhaem Slave Trade affair was correct.

I have no reason to doubt the correctness of Colonel Drummond's statement, but various considerations have induced me to delay the expression of your Lordship's approbation of his conduct.

In the first place, it is not to be denied that the Opposition have availed themselves of the misunderstanding which exists between the President and myself, to attack the Government, and to forward their political views. It was, therefore, my desire to avoid the appearance of aiding them, by any act tending

to embarrass the Government, however much I might disapprove of its course of action.

Secondly, the trial of Dr. Antonio Drummond is still pending; and, although I firmly believe in his innocence, I conceived that I should only be acting with prudence and judgment in delaying the transmission of the thanks of Her Majesty's Government to his father; for my despatch would, of course, have been published, and might have been construed into an attempt on my part to influence the course of justice as regarded the son.

Thirdly, a report was prevalent that the Government had grounds for suspecting Colonel Drummond himself.

And lastly, the President, through a mutual friend, expressed his desire that our relations should be placed upon a more amicable footing; and deeming this to be undoubtedly advantageous to the public service, I yesterday requested and obtained an interview with his Excellency at the palace, where he received me with much apparent cordiality.

I commenced our conversation by begging him to believe that my great desire was to carry on our public intercourse with harmony and goodwill; that I trusted he would consider my present interview as a proof of that desire, for I had received specific instructions from your Lordship upon the Serinhaem Slave Trade affair; that those orders desired me to address his Excellency again, should I consider that he was not executing the laws of the Empire, or carrying out the country's engagements with Great Britain; and to convey to Colonel Drummond the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for his conduct in that affair; but that, before acting upon these instructions, I had sought his Excellency, that I might obtain information upon one or two points. First, I took the liberty of demanding if the Government had any cause for suspecting Colonel Drummond to have been directly or indirectly culpable in that criminal affair; for I could not but express my surprise that the man who had captured the slaver, and had received the thanks of the Imperial Government for so doing, should have been dismissed from his honorary post of Delegate of the Police, and, to all appearance, should have fallen under the displeasure of his Excellency's Government.

The President thanked me for my confidence, and stated that, when he received Colonel Drummond's despatch announcing the capture of the slaver, he was so enthusiastic in his favour that he not only reported his conduct to Rio de Janeiro in such a way as to ensure him the thanks of the Government, but he wrote privately to the Minister, suggesting the propriety of making him Baron of Serinhaem. Subsequent events, however, had modified, if not altered, his opinion. He did not accuse him of the filth ["porcaria"] of robbing slaves, but, as circumstances came to light, his proceedings became more and more unaccountable. First it was discovered that he had not seized the slaver until the third day after her arrival, during the whole of which period the captain was at his house, from whence he escaped. What was the object of this delay? He did not, as he asserted, send round to the agents of the police; had he done so he would have found two, although he regretted to admit that all the others were absent.

The article in the "Diario" announcing this fact was written by Dr. Antonio Drummond, an ingrate who had been his pupil, but, because he refused him the post of Juiz de Direito, revenged himself by writing this falsehood. He believed that he would obtain proofs, before his trial, that he had actually received 10 of the finest of the stolen blacks. Colonel Drummond had refused to aid the police, or to afford them any information, and, although he could accuse him of no specific offence, his conduct had been suspicious and mysterious.

He assured me that it was impossible for me to conceive the trouble, vexation, and anxiety which this affair had caused him.

I replied, that Colonel Drummond had not concealed from me the fact of his feeling a certain amount of hesitation about capturing the slaver in the first instance. He foresaw the enemies he should create, and this caused considerable delay; but I thought it harsh on the part of the Government to condemn a man who had undoubtedly performed a valuable service, and one hitherto unheard of in Brazil, and whose example should be encouraged, because he had not done so as promptly as he might; I had known Colonel Drummond's sentiments upon the subject of African Slave Trade for so many years, that I could not believe in his aiding it, even in the most indirect way.

I then inquired into the cause of the lengthened imprisonment and delay in the trial of Dr. Antonio Drummond.

The President replied, that the Government was still seeking for evidence.

Finally, I requested some explanation respecting the continued non-apprehension of the stolen Africans.

His Excellency replied, that he had sent a very active military delegate to the district, but that he had only succeeded in capturing 10, making 19 in all, and he could not discover where the others were concealed.

I said that I thought I could inform him.

The President laughed, and said that he wished I would do so; a desire with which I have promised to comply, if I obtain the permission of my confidential informant.

I have therefore deemed it advisable, my Lord, not to transmit the expression of your approbation to Colonel Drummond for the present. I shall, in all probability, await the result of his son's trial, if it be not too long or improperly delayed, that I may better judge who are innocent and who guilty.

I am greatly dissatisfied with the proceedings of the Government in this matter; the delays in the State trials; the *inertia* of the police in the recovery of the stolen Africans. On the other hand, I am satisfied, not only of the innocence, but of the meritorious services of the Drummonds; but I think that, for the reasons I have stated, I shall lose nothing in the effect of my next act by awaiting, a short time, the course of events, and by thus tempering its energy with a little moderation; and I trust that your Lordship will consider that I have determined judiciously.

No. 4.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 28, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th ultimo, inclosing a copy of the note which you addressed to Senhor Paranhos in conformity with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 9th of January. And I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your proceedings in executing those instructions.

You will state to Senhor Paranhos that nothing can be further from the intention of Her Majesty's Government than to be either harsh or unjust. They have, on the contrary, taken every occasion, both in Parliament and in official despatches, to render justice to the honourable and humane conduct of the Brazilian Government; and it was, therefore, with sincere regret that they perceived some evidence of a change in the course of opposition to the Slave Trade which has been pursued in Brazil for nearly three years previous to October 1855, and that unmistakable symptoms of the revival of slave-trading had become apparent.

The want of vigour on the part of the President of Pernambuco, in the affair of the slaves landed at Serinhaem in October last, and the indifference with which that conduct has been viewed by the Imperial Government, indicate a change of policy that must serve as an encouragement to slave-traders; and it was upon this ground that Her Majesty's Government desired to address a timely warning to the Imperial Government.

However grateful Her Majesty's Government may feel to the Brazilian Government for its successful endeavours to extinguish the Slave Trade, however anxious they may be to cultivate the most friendly relations with Brazil, they have yet a duty paramount to all others to perform; and they are determined to spare no exertion, and to use all the means at their command, to prevent the revival of this inhuman Traffic.

Her Majesty's Government will with pain and reluctance resort to measures which they know must be repugnant to Brazil; and they earnestly hope that they may be relieved from the necessity of adopting such a course, by the proceedings of the Imperial Government, which possesses now the same power that it has so well exercised for the last few years, to suppress the Slave Trade, and to punish those who engage in it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 5.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Cowper.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 28, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th ultimo, stating the reasons for which you have thought it advisable to delay the execution of the instructions contained in my despatch of the 18th of January, directing you to convey to Colonel Vasconcellos Drummond the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for his conduct in the Serinhaem Slave Trade affair; and I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve the course which you intend to pursue with regard to Colonel Drummond.

I have also to express to you my approval of the language held by you to the President of Pernambuco, in the interview which you had with his Excellency on the 18th ultimo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 6.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 16.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 12, 1856.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th of March, in which I inclosed to your Lordship copy of a note which I thought myself authorized, according to the instructions conveyed in your Lordship's despatch of the 9th of January, to address to the Brazilian Government, respecting slave-trading and slave-traders, I beg to have the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of Senhor Paranhos' answer, which I beg to submit to your Lordship's consideration.

I believe the Brazilian Government have taken it very much to heart that I have given them the warning of again carrying into effect the Act of Parliament of 1845, if Slave Trade repression in Brazil does not proceed in a satisfactory way; but this time is that of a crisis. Slave Trade is doing what it can to resume its former evil ways; and as the Pernambuco proceedings, according to Her Majesty's Consul, were not advancing in a proper and decisive manner, I was convinced I could no longer refrain from acting upon your Lordship's instructions.

I do not say but that there may be a desire on the part of the Government to put down Slave Trade, but I doubt the efficiency of their means of doing so unaided and alone.

The want of hands is severely felt in many parts, owing to the recent devastation and ravages committed by the cholera. The "fazendeiros" are disinclined towards Chinamen, and few European colonists come here excepting Portuguese and "Ilheos," certainly not sufficient to fill up the void in agricultural districts.

These latter generally hang about towns, become venda-keepers, "feitores," domestic servants, and gardeners; but few condescend to work upon an equal footing with the Blacks in "fazendas" and "engenhos": besides, the railway and public roads take up a good many of these people, who engage themselves to Portuguese contractors and others to work together. Consequently the coffee farmers reap little benefit, except in a few individual cases, from the few white colonists who arrive; and there is no doubt but that they are eager, if not determined, to obtain, by deep-laid schemes, wealth, and influence, Bozal Blacks for manual labour.

In an interview yesterday with Senhor Paranhos, I read him a despatch which I had received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, Mr. Morgan, respecting the slave-trading movement that was thought to be commencing amongst a certain set of small shopkeepers there. I also alluded to his Excellency's note, which is inclosed in my despatch of 11th of February; but his Excellency entered into no very long discussion, but assured me of the firm intention of the Brazilian Government to do all they could against the Slave Trade; and his Excellency also told me that the Minister of Justice had taken some steps with regard to a vessel which had been denounced to the Brazilian Government, as well as relative to several persons thought to be connected with the Slave Trade movement, he believed, at Bahia.

With respect to persons of the Portuguese nation who might offend against the law in slave matters, his Excellency said that his Government were resolved to act against them, although sending them out of the country might displease the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

Senhor Paranhos considered the revival of Slave Trade here not likely to take place, as the people of Brazil were against it, and that the Government authorities would prosecute all offenders.

I wish every one in this country had as good sentiments in this respect as his Excellency, whom I believe to be an adversary to the African Slave Traffic.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 6, 1856.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Mr. W. S. Jerningham, &c., addressed to him on the 7th of last month, relative to the repression of the Slave Trade in Brazil.

Mr. Jerningham, in his said note, says that he had learnt with regret, and when he least expected it, that the proceedings of the Imperial Government, and of the Brazilian authorities, for the apprehension of the Africans stolen in Serinhaem, and the prosecution of those individuals who have committed themselves in the criminal speculation, are far from being satisfactory.

That in consequence of instructions from the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, he begged leave to signify to the Brazilian Government, that if the latter did not make greater exertions in order to discover and punish, with the full rigour of the laws, those delinquents in this and in any other Slave Trade negotiation, the British Government will be again forced to carry into effect the Act of Parliament of the year 1845.

That if such should come to pass, whilst the British cruisers would be exercising upon the coasts and in the rivers and ports of Brazil that vigilance and activity which might be neglected by the agents and officers of the Imperial Government, the British tribunals would pronounce sentences of condemnation which the Brazilian tribunals would not deliver.

The Undersigned has already had the honour to manifest to Mr. Jerningham, at the conference of the 12th of last month, the great surprise and profound regret caused to the Government of His Majesty the Emperor by the said note of the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty, a note which is in manifest and inexplicable contradiction with the repeated proofs of solicitude evinced by the Imperial Government in the repression of the Slave Trade, and even with the just appreciation of these acts testified by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, not only by notes, but also by solemn documents, and as respectable as those of the speeches of the Crown.

The surprise, the injustice, and the manner of the intimation which Her Britannic Majesty's Legation thought itself authorized to address to the Imperial Government, attach so special a character to Mr. Jerningham's note, that it is not possible to comprehend that it has the sole object and cause expressed therein by Mr. Jerningham.

It is the belief of the Imperial Government that Her Britannic Majesty's Government, under the impression caused by the first and incorrect communications which they doubtless received respecting the seizure effected by the Brazilian authorities at Serinhaem, gave entire credit to the conjectures of the British Consul in Pernambuco; conjectures grounded upon incomplete and suspicious information, as those propagated in Pernambuco, before the fact in question was there well known.

They also believe that, under these impressions, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty endeavoured to acquire better information through Mr. Jerningham, and that they have beforehand sent instructions to him to request the Imperial Government to take such measures as the case required, if they had not been previously adopted.

It is not, however, possible that the Imperial Government should conjecture what reasons should induce the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, or their Representative at this Court, without any other object than that of the observance

of the Convention of the 23rd November, 1826, and the repression of the crime committed in Serinhaem, to address, under present circumstances, an intimation conceived in such terms.

The impressions which might have been caused by the first accounts of the occurrence at Serinhaem on the minds of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty ought to have been at once dissipated by the information and assurances which the Undersigned, at different times, verbally, and in his notes of the 9th of November and 4th of December of last year, had the honour to bring to the knowledge and consideration of Mr. Jerningham.

The Imperial Government were persuaded that Mr. Jerningham's unjust prejudices had vanished, in consequence of the public and notorious efforts of the Imperial Government for the discovery of the 47 Africans stolen in Serinhaem, and the imprisonment and trial of all the criminals.

The Legation of Her Britannic Majesty was not ignorant, when addressing the above-mentioned note of the 7th of March, of the information communicated to it by the Undersigned.

From the said communications, it became apparent that the most energetic and severe orders were immediately sent to the President of the Province of Pernambuco.

That as well by virtue of those measures of the Imperial Government, as by those which were immediately taken by that Delegate of His Majesty the Emperor, the whole thread of the crime was discovered: that various individuals were indicted as authors and accomplices, amongst them some of great importance in the province, and 9 of the stolen Africans were recovered.

That the Imperial Government were not satisfied with this result, although important, of the first searches made, and gave orders that the Delegate of Police of the District of Serinhaem should be made responsible, there being strong presumptions of his culpability, and that all means which might be conducive towards the discovery of other guilty persons, if there existed any, and of the 38 remaining Africans should be adopted.

The result of the last orders of the Government is unknown, but they have not for one moment lost sight of this affair. It is, however, known that the authorities were endeavouring to comply with their duty, and that 10 more Africans have been captured; this fact has been mentioned in the newspapers, and must have immediately been noticed by Mr. Jerningham.

The epidemic which has lately invaded that province, and has committed great ravages there, would necessarily create great delays and embarrass the proceedings of the police authorities. Independent of this cause, which it would appear the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty does not place to the credit of the Brazilian authorities, it is no matter of wonder that in a country of such vast extent as Brazil, covered with forests, and destitute of good and easy communication in the interior, the whole of the guilty persons should not have been immediately discovered and arrested.

The space of time which the criminals had for escaping and carrying off the Africans they had stolen, was of itself a more than sufficient motive for explaining the embarrassments with which the authorities have contended. If, as is certain, the interior of the province offers sure refuges to any malefactor, much more will it do so to individuals who, besides being acquainted with all the localities, have there wealth, friends and relations.

The attributing to the slackness of the Imperial Government, or of their agents, the fact of the non-imprisonment of all the persons indicted, and the non-seizure of the 28 Africans still missing out of the 47 stolen, is so notable an injustice that it would give a right to the belief that the Government or Legation of Her Britannic Majesty judge it proper that the repression of the Slave Trade in Brazil may always appear, not as a spontaneous act of the Imperial Government, but as a consequence of those censures prodigally cast upon the Brazilian authorities.

The Imperial Government, however, find pleasure in the belief that neither the Government of Her Britannic Majesty nor her Legation at this Court, nourish any such thoughts; that their remonstrances only arise from incorrect accounts which the British Consular Agents easily give credit to, and the unjust judgment which they express thereon, from the persuasion that they thus afford proofs of zeal which recommend them to the esteem of their Government.

The fact of Serinhaem, duly appreciated in its origin and circumstances even without the discovery of all the stolen Africans, and without the imprisonment being effected of all the persons indicted, would speak in favour, and not to the discredit, of the repression of the Slave Trade in the Empire. The Undersigned has already said so once to Mr. Jerningham, and he still repeats the same now with the most intimate conviction.

Subsequent to that fact, respecting which such minute and satisfactory explanations have been furnished to the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty, the capture took place of the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," on the bar of St. Matthew's (Province of Espirito Santo), a capture which evidently demonstrates the vigilance of the Imperial Government and of their agents.

Information had long before been lodged against that vessel, but it was not known upon what point of the extensive coast of Brazil she would attempt to effect her criminal speculation. A sailing Brazilian cruiser succeeded in capturing her in that place, and there can be no doubt that her attempt would have been frustrated wherever she might have tried to introduce herself in Brazil.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation appreciated this fact in very just and amicable terms; as expressed by Mr. Jerningham in his note of the 4th of February last.

The note to which the Undersigned now replies are the first congratulations transmitted by Mr. Jerningham to the Imperial Government in the name of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, after that capture which he had so justly appreciated.

Meanwhile it is certain that subsequently to this fact, other very friendly and confidential communications have been received by the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty, which ought, if not to increase its benevolence, at least to cause it to be less unjust and acrimonious towards the Imperial Government.

The Undersigned refers to his confidential note of the 22nd of February, by which Mr. Jerningham was informed of the confessions of the captain of the "*Mary E. Smith*," and of the measures which, in consequence of those new elucidations, the Imperial Government had taken.

The scrupulous watchfulness of the Imperial Government, in order to prevent the reproduction of the African Slave Trade in Brazil, is such, and so notorious, that it is well known to every one both in and out of the country, and some persons censure them as being excessively severe.

The Undersigned begs leave to tell Mr. Jerningham that the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty greatly contributes towards this unjust judgment, from the manner in which he views the relations between the two Governments, touching this common object, in wishing to carry his cooperation as far as to divest the acts of the Imperial Government of all their virtue, and to give them the appearance of having been urged upon them by the British Government.

The Imperial Government do not pretend to allege that previous to the year 1850 they had succeeded in completely and efficaciously repressing the Slave Trade, the extinction whereof had been stipulated with the British Government by the Convention of the 23rd of November, 1826.

The revolutionary crises which the Empire underwent during that period, and the insufficiency of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, promulgated for the purpose of carrying out the stipulations of the said Convention, embarrassed and weakened the action of the Imperial Government in so very difficult and momentous a subject. The repression was certainly, until that year, by no means efficacious, notwithstanding the regular assistance rendered to the Imperial Government by the numerous British cruisers on the coasts of Brazil and of Africa, and in spite of the violences authorised by the Act of the British Parliament of 1845, and which were exercised by their executors even on the seaboard, and in the rivers and ports of Brazil.

The consolidation of peace and constitutional order in the Empire, and the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, which amplified and gave fresh force to that of the 7th November, 1831, impressed such a degree of efficiency on the repression of the Slave Trade, that both in and out of the country its continuance was deemed an impossibility. The results obtained until the year 1853 were immense, although some acts and attempts, which might encourage insidious undertakings on the part of the slave-traders, under certain circumstances, should have escaped the foresight of the law.

The Imperial Government, desirous of obtaining full security against the

renewal of that illicit trade, proposed, in 1853, to the General Legislative Assembly, some additional provisions to the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, and obtained their definitive adoption in 1854.

Armed with those new means, and not being sparing of expenses, perhaps ruinous to their finances, the Imperial Government was enabled to defeat many attempts, so that since that time only two slave-vessels have reached the shores of Brazil; that pilot-boat which was seized in Serinhaem with almost the whole of her cargo, except those who died on the voyage, and the 47 Africans who were there stolen, and the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," captured on the coast of the Province of Espirito Santo, with the whole of her cargo and crew. And it is proper to observe, that both these vessels were fitted out far from Brazil, and their negotiations planned and carried into execution by foreigners not residing in Brazil.

The British Government appearing to confide in the vigilance and good will with which the Government of His Majesty the Emperor attended to the repression of the Slave Trade, and doubtless likewise in the efficacy of the measures put into action, considerably diminished, and with economy to the British Treasury, the number of their cruizers, both in the African and Brazilian seas. Now, however, that the peace of Europe appears to be possible, Mr. Jerningham considers it convenient to dispute the efforts of the Imperial Government, to accuse them of laxity, and to threaten them, in the name of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, with the enforcement of the Bill of August 1845!

The menace so unjustly and acrimoniously emitted against the Imperial Government may serve to arouse the recollection that Great Britain is a stronger nation than Brazil, and to signify that she will not shrink from making use, without legitimate cause, of her great material power; but she will not be able to cloak the unreasonableness of such a proceeding, nor shake the tranquillity with which the Imperial Government is inspired by the consciousness of their dignity and of the integrity of their acts.

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor also place great confidence in the spirit of justice of the British nation, and do not apprehend that, instead of the disappearance for ever of that anomalous Act from British Legislation, it will once more be carried into execution, to hostile a nation with which Great Britain holds amicable relations, founded upon mutual and important interests.

In spite of unjust prejudices and ill-understood and transitory convictions, which may obscure the truth of facts, this will finally penetrate public opinion in England, and not only for ever efface the violent Act of 1845, but also show the inutility and impropriety of the intervention of British Agents in order to effect the complete and efficacious repression of Slave Trade in Brazil, which is in conformity with the wishes and interests of the Brazilian Government.

It is not impossible, until that opinion shall have penetrated into the Councils of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and they become better informed, and shall treat with greater justice the Government of His Majesty the Emperor, it is not impossible that the Act of 1845, which offends the independence and sovereignty of Brazil, may be again revived, and once more be carried into execution. If, however, that should come to pass, it would be to fall to the ground immediately and entirely demoralised, and to be for ever condemned.

The Bill of 1845, which is now brought to the memory of the Imperial Government, would be most efficacious in destroying the legal trade of the Empire, would excite and provoke odious collisions, but would be completely useless towards ensuring the extinction of the Slave Trade.

The slave-traders, whose speculations are premeditated and commenced in the territory of the United States, would not fear the British cruisers. In the same manner that these, when cruising off the small number of ports on the coast of Africa, whence cargoes of negroes were dispatched to Brazil, could not suppress the Traffic, they would not be able to suppress it in cruising off the vast extent of the coast of Brazil.

That which disheartens and terrifies the slave-traders, the British Government may feel convinced, is the persecution of them on shore, which deprives them of the probability of profit. Without that internal repression, long continued, active and vigorous as it has been until this day, the audacious and insidious slave-traders would laugh at all the British cruisers.

The threat which in such offensive terms is addressed to the Imperial Government in the name of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, cannot, therefore, produce the effect which it is said is in view; it would only serve to discourage the Imperial Government from the prosecution of their generous desire of repressing the Traffic, if that repression were not for them not only the performance of an international duty, but also one of the political interests of the Empire, a question of public order and of its future.

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor acknowledge the obligation contracted by the Convention of the 23rd of November, 1826, and exert themselves to carry it loyally and efficaciously into execution. If they cannot always reckon, in order to prove the loyalty and efficacy of their exertions, upon the testimony of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, and of her Legation at this Court, from the prepossessions which they evince, and from the incorrect and unjust information which they have received, they reckon upon the testimony of their own consciences, upon that of the numerous English merchants residing in this country, and they believe that they might also reckon upon that of the whole civilised world, if such were necessary.

Some one or other individual implicated in the Slave Trade may escape the action of the laws, without that circumstance proving laxity on the part of the Imperial Government. Nations more advanced than Brazil cannot pride themselves upon their laws overtaking all the crimes committed, and their tribunals punishing all the delinquents.

The Brazilian Government, however, acknowledging, as they do, that the repression of the Slave Trade is not only in the interests of the Empire, but likewise an engagement contracted with the British Government, cannot admit that this engagement should be converted into an instrument offensive to their dignity and full sovereignty, while the agents of Her Britannic Majesty derive, from the Convention of the 23rd November, 1826, the right of watching over the execution of the Municipal Laws of Brazil, and of distributing, at their free will, praises or vituperations against the acts of the Imperial Government and of their subordinates.

The Imperial Government expect from the justice, wisdom, and prudence of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, that they will recognise the full reason and right which they have for addressing to them these observations.

Enlightened as the Government of Her Britannic Majesty are, they will agree with that of His Majesty the Emperor that reciprocal confidence is the first condition towards the concurrence of both countries in the common task of repressing the Slave Trade, and that animosity and menace destroy that worthy and necessary confidence, and oppose the sincere and strenuous proceedings of the Imperial Government towards indirectly, and by means of the national sense of honour, condemning that infamous Traffic, which the Imperial Government have succeeded in rendering contemptible, and in repressing.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

No. 7.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 16.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, April 21, 1856.

SINCE the date of my despatch of the 19th ultimo, a very important event has occurred in relation to the Serinhaem Slave Trade affair.

Upon the 2nd instant I accompanied an English gentleman, recently arrived, to the Palace, that I might present him to the President, when, upon rising to depart, his Excellency took my arm, and leading me to a distant corner of the room, asked me if I would do him a great favour. I replied, that if it were possible, I should be too happy. He asked me if I would go to Serinhaem, and upon my inquiring for what purpose, he replied, to aid the Government in obtaining evidence against the actual criminals; that I had influence with Colonel Drummond, and that I could possibly obtain from him information which he had refused to communicate to the Government. I answered that I scarcely considered it to be consistent with my duties to perform those which belonged to the police. He met this objection by observing that, as the policy of both

countries was the same regarding Slave Trade, by thus aiding his Government I should be serving my own. I said that if such were his Excellency's opinion, I would at once proceed to Serinhaem.

The Drummonds had long before requested me to go there and to judge for myself, but with every desire to do so, I deemed it prudent to avoid any appearance of interference in the internal affairs of the Province; but when the President himself made the request, no such objection could exist, and I consequently started on Thursday morning, and after eleven hours' hard riding arrived at Trapiche, one of the estates of Colonel Drummond.

The next morning I stated to him the object of my visit. He assured me upon his honour that he had nothing whatever to communicate; that the statement which he had already made to me was correct in every particular; that the only ground which the Government had for their complaint of his withholding information was, first, his refusal to withdraw his despatch to the President announcing the robbery of the Africans, and, secondly, his refusal to denounce individuals as the robbers against whom he had no further evidence than the general report; that he had seized the slaver at the instigation of his son Antonio, to whom all the merit was due; that the delay which arose in her capture was entirely owing to the absence of the police authorities, and of any military or police force; he, therefore, detained the captain at his "engenho" as a stratagem, until he assured him that the Africans would perish for want of food and water, unless speedily provided.

I accompanied the Colonel to the Barra of Serinhaem the following day, and there obtained sufficient evidence to prove that if the Government had formed its process in accordance with the law, at the scene of the crime, instead of at Rio Formoso, six leagues off, abundant evidence would have been obtained to convict the guilty. I returned to Serinhaem the same night, and to Pernambuco on Sunday.

On Monday I called at the Palace, and the President asked me the result of my visit. I told him that it had confirmed me in my opinion of the innocence of the Drummonds, of their valuable services, and of the injustice with which they had been treated by the Government; that I therefore intended to transmit the thanks of Her Majesty's Government to Colonel Drummond without further delay. He begged me not to do so, as it would greatly embarrass him; but I replied that both my sense of justice and my duty forbade me to delay it any longer. He said that he had taken the liberty of informing the Ministers at Rio, confidentially, what my instructions were, and they had desired him to endeavour to arrange matters with me, and prevent their execution; he trusted, therefore, that I would at least await the arrival of the English steamer from Rio, and as she is expected in a few days I agreed to this, but I have, nevertheless, prepared the letter which it is my intention to forward, and now transmit a copy to your Lordship.

His Excellency then observed that the affair was wearing a serious aspect at Rio de Janeiro, and that it was in my power to settle it by a simple expression of approbation of the acts of the authorities, which would at once satisfy my Government. I replied that I had no doubt of it; but that as my opinions were, unfortunately, entirely opposed to those proceedings, it was impossible for me to do so. The President said that if I urged on the trial of the accused, he would throw the onus of the acquittal, which would inevitably follow, upon me; and he ended by requesting that I would suggest anything which I thought it advisable to do, and he would, if possible, do it. I told him that I feared that the course which the Government had pursued, rendered effective action difficult, if not impossible, now; but that there still existed at the Barra, where the inquiry ought in the first instance to have been held, persons who could personally swear to the robbers. He said that if I would give him their names, he would order the Chief of the Police to proceed there and interrogate them.

I inquired if the purchase of the stolen Africans had been ordered by him; he replied in the affirmative, but justified the proceeding upon the ground of the impossibility of recovering them by force. I replied that if this were an act of unavoidable expediency, still the persons from whom they were obtained must be known, and why were they not prosecuted? To this I obtained no reply.

Your Lordship will, I think, admit that there are strong grounds for coming to the following conclusions with respect to the proceedings of the President in this affair:—

1. That he wilfully and premeditatedly removed the police authorities from the district of Serinhaem previous to the slaver's arrival.

2. That with the official announcement of the robbery of the Africans in his possession, he denied that fact in his reply to my protest; and to support his statement sent the Chief of the Police on board the "Itamarica" to obtain a certificate, and to Colonel Drummond to induce him to withdraw his despatch.

3. That although the law specifically ordains that processes in such cases shall be formed at the locality of the crime, where the evidence of eye-witnesses may be supposed to be most obtainable, he had it formed at Rio Formoso, six leagues off.

4. That he included in the process Dr. Antonio Drummond, and all the other captors of the slaver, in order that he might crush the evidence of the only eye-witnesses of the crime, for the testimony of an accused cannot be received.

5. That in prosecuting the captors of the slaver, he has offered the greatest discouragement to such acts, and that in purchasing the Africans from their robbers, without prosecuting the latter, he has offered the greatest encouragement to Slave Trade.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Consul Cowper to Colonel Drummond.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious Sir,

Pernambuco, April , 1856.

I HAVE received instructions from his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, to offer to you the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the service which you have rendered to humanity, in apprehending the slaver which arrived at the mouth of the River Serinhaem in the month of October last.

As a service to the human race, your proceeding requires no comment; for what observations of mine could add to the pride and satisfaction which you must feel in having saved from hereditary slavery 181 of your fellow-creatures, added to the certainty of the applause of all right-thinking men.

As a service to your country its effects cannot be exaggerated; for the example of the proprietor of six "engenhoes," containing one hundred and fifty square miles of territory, seizing and delivering over to the authorities of the Empire a cargo of unfortunates, falsely and fatally considered as essential to the development of agriculture, must cause the most infatuated to pause. This unexampled defence of the supremacy of the laws, at the risk of personal and family inconveniences and persecution, is not only an honour to you, but should be a source of pride to your country.

I, who have so long known the opinions entertained by you upon that curse of the human race, and remnant of a barbarous age—the enslavement of man by man, beg to express to you the profound satisfaction that I feel in being the organ of conveying to you the thanks of the Government of my august Sovereign.

I avail myself of this occasion to reiterate to you my warmest sentiments of admiration and esteem.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 8.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of April, inclosing a copy of the reply of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the note which you addressed to him on the 7th of March, remonstrating against the laxity of the proceedings of the Brazilian authorities in the affair of the Africans landed and stolen at Serinhaem; and, with reference to that part of your despatch which relates to the interview which you had with the Brazilian Minister, I have

to acquaint you that I approve of your having communicated to Senhor Paranhos the information which you had received respecting the slave-trading movement reported to be commencing amongst the small shopkeepers at Bahia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 9.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Cowper.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 31, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of April, reporting the circumstances which led you to undertake a journey to Serinhaem, the facts which you ascertained relative to the landing of African slaves at that place in October last, and the reasons which have induced you to come to the conclusion that the President of the Province of Pernambuco has been guilty of having connived at this slave-trading adventure, and has availed himself of his official position to screen the principal offenders.

No. 10.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 6, 1856.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Cowper, Her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco, respecting the conduct of the President of that province in the matter of the African slaves landed at Serinhaem in October last.

Her Majesty's Government having carefully considered all the facts connected with this disgraceful affair, have, with regret, come to the conclusion that the President is the person upon whom rests the guilt of having wilfully neglected his public duty in this matter.

The principal grounds upon which Mr. Cowper founds this accusation appear to be—

1. That the President, in order to provide for the security of the slave-vessel, and in order to screen this criminal adventure, which was undertaken by friends of his, took care beforehand to remove the police authorities from the district of Serinhaem.

2. That he purposely contrived that the preliminary process of legal inquiry as to the facts of the case should be conducted at Rio Formoso, a place distant six leagues from the spot where the slaves were landed, instead of having it held at the Barra, at which place, and not at Rio Formoso, persons were to be found who could identify the men who carried away the slaves.

3. That, in order to suppress the evidence of the only eye-witnesses of the crime by making them the accused parties, he included in the process of accusation Dr. Antonio Drummond and all the other captors of the slaver.

You will communicate these charges to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and you will state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government place full reliance upon the good faith of the Imperial Government, and upon their desire to persevere in the wise and humane policy of opposition to the Slave Trade which they have pursued since 1852; that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that the Brazilian Government will be ready to make a proper example of an offender whose rank and official position aggravate the criminality of his proceedings, and will see the necessity of thus checking the revival of the Slave Trade, which the impunity of the President of Pernambuco cannot fail to encourage; and that Her Majesty's Government, accordingly, suggest that this officer should be dismissed from the post of President; that the Chief of the Police of Pernambuco should also be dismissed; and that Dr. Antonio Drummond and the other captors of the slaver should either be immediately brought to trial or be liberated.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 9.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 12, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to announce to your Lordship that Senhor José Bento de Figueredo, President of Pernambuco, has been succeeded in that post by Senhor Sergio Macedo, former Brazilian Minister in London.

Some consider this change as a kind of dismissal; however, Senhor Paranhos told me the other day, during an interview, that President José Bento himself had asked to be replaced.

In a conversation I had the other day with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, I frankly told his Excellency all I had heard by way of complaint against Senhor Bento's conduct in the Serinhaem affair—of his subserviency to the Cavalcantis, and of his prosecution of the Drummonds; as well as his late attempt of conciliating Mr. Consul Cowper's goodwill, upon which point Senhor Paranhos, however, endeavoured, as he has always done when I have spoken to him upon this matter, to defend Senhor Bento's proceedings. He could not allow that the President was wrong in prosecuting the Drummonds, whom he thought culpable, and seemed astonished to think that I should believe the Imperial authority could permit itself to be influenced by provincial factions.

I likewise informed his Excellency that Mr. Cowper had been ordered by your Lordship to offer Colonel Gaspar de Menezes Drummond the cordial thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the service which that gentleman rendered to humanity in apprehending the slaver at the mouth of the River Serinhaem in October last.

I observed, however, to M. Paranhos, that out of deference to the demand of Senhor José Bento, Mr. Cowper had withheld for a short time this tribute of justice to Colonel Drummond; but that lately Her Majesty's Consul had written me word that he had told President Bento that there existed no further necessity for a delay, and that he should consequently transmit Her Majesty's Government's thanks, which I supposed he had by this time done accordingly.

Upon this announcement Senhor Paranhos said that he had to complain of Her Majesty's Government for transmitting thanks to a Brazilian subject who was bound to answer before a Brazilian tribunal for charges preferred against him, and his Excellency exclaimed, "If you are to be judges in such affairs, there is an end of everything."

I told his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government had given these orders to Mr. Cowper, and that if even his Excellency or Mr. Cowper had consulted me upon delaying to put them into execution, I should not have interfered (as I could not) in such a positive direction. "Well," added Senhor Paranhos, "write to your Government, and represent what I have said. I have also instructed M. Carvalho Moreira to speak upon this subject to Lord Clarendon."

To prove to his Excellency that there were precedents for what he considered a cause of complaint, I reminded him that Viscount Palmerston, to the best of my recollection, had, either in 1850 or 1851, caused official thanks to be offered to Senhor Gonçalves Martins, and also to Senhor Mauricio Wanderly, then Chief of the Police at Bahia; but his Excellency considered that quite a different matter (although it was for good behaviour in Slave Trade repression), because neither of these gentlemen were in the position of an accused party, like Colonel Vasconcellos Drummond.

In speaking of M. Macedo's nomination I gave his Excellency to understand that I could but applaud such a proceeding.

The other evening I had an occasion at a ball to converse with M. Macedo, who spoke to me of his being about to repair to Pernambuco.

He added that he had been making inquiries respecting the Chief of Police, and that as the result of these inquiries had been satisfactory, he had determined upon retaining him in office.

I then told M. Macedo what I knew and had heard of the whole of this—about the President Bento, the police, and the Drummonds, as well as the favour which had been shown to Cavalcanti (Chico Caçador), who, although

under arrest, was promenading the streets of Serinhaem, whilst Colonel Drummond's son was in close confinement; and I urged his Excellency above all things to cause the trials to be brought on and concluded, as soon as in justice they ought to be, since the Drummonds, who were thought to be innocent, would then see this terrible aspersion removed from their characters.

His Excellency, who had evidently been prejudiced against Mr. Cowper, asked me about that gentleman. I told his Excellency that he would find him a very active man of business, and that when he took a thing in hand he would go through with it; and that in the Serinhaem affair especially he had exerted himself greatly in the interests of humanity.

In conformity to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th of March,* in which your Lordship states that upon perusing Senhor Paranhos' note, copy of which was sent home in my despatch of the 12th of February, his Excellency does not appear satisfactorily to exonerate the Government authorities in Pernambuco from the complaints made against them, for having failed to exert sufficient vigour in repressing the scandalous violation of the law in the Serinhaem Slave Trade business, as well as from other charges preferred against them, I beg to state that I informed Senhor Paranhos of your Lordship's impressions upon his Excellency's note, and expressed to his Excellency the hope of Her Majesty's Government that, in the future proceedings in these matters, the Brazilian Government will prove that the provincial authorities on every part of the coast of Brazil shall be encouraged and stimulated to exert the same laudable activity in crushing the Slave Trade as was shown by the capture of the American slaver "*Mary E. Smith*."

P.S. I have the honour to forward translation of an extract of the journal "*Correio da Tarde*" of Rio de Janeiro respecting the case of Colonel Drummond.

Inclosure in No. 11.

*Private Letter from Pernambuco, published in the "Correio da Tarde" of
May 5, 1856.*

(Translation.)

THE Drummond case continues *in statu quo*, and it is not possible to obtain from the Chief of the Police and Auditor of the Marine the institution of proceedings; as the Government advocate *ad hoc* is a creature of the judge *a quo*, he is disinclined to compose the famous indictment, for the purpose of its being exhibited in the Court, for the commencement of proceedings.

It appears that the English Consul went to Serinhaem, and returned thence the more and more convinced of the innocence of Dr. Antonio Drummond, and of the worthy conduct of his father, Colonel Menezes de Drummond, the ex-delegate of the district.

It is further said, that the English Government has addressed a most honourable letter to the said Colonel, thanking him for the service rendered to humanity by that capture, from which, by the way, so many troubles, losses, &c., have resulted to him.

One of the accomplices appealed to the Supreme Court (*Relação*); up to this moment I am ignorant of what may have been the result. Be it what it may, I shall inform you of it, and shall moralize thereon. On this occasion I will only tell you that the two judges ("*desembargadores*") Telles and Valle, humble servants of the Councillor President of the Supreme Court, and of Senhor José Bento, have meanly pleaded in way of excuse for their scandalous proceeding that their votes were imposed upon them by the Government, and that if they had not acted as they did, they feared that they would have been removed to Maranhão, &c., &c.; as if Maranhão were Siberia, or some garrisoned fortress. This is what is rumoured, but I cannot vouch for its being true, and I have no intercourse with those magistrates; you can, therefore, deduce from what I tell you the natural inferences.

* See Slave Trade Papers presented 1856, Class B, No. 144.

No. 12.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 9.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, May 19, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to announce to your Lordship that the President, Senhor José Bento da Cunha Figueredo, has been superseded, and that Senhor Macedo, recently Brazilian Minister in London, has been appointed to succeed him; his arrival here is hourly expected. I have also been informed that the Chief of the Police has at length been dismissed.

No. 13.

Memorandum.—(Communicated to the Earl of Clarendon by M. Moreira, June 18, 1856.)

(Translation.)

THE Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil has received from the Honourable Mr. Wm. Stafford Jerningham, Chargé d'Affaires of Her Britannic Majesty at Rio de Janeiro, a note dated the 7th of March ultimo, in which Mr. Jerningham states that he has learnt, that the course taken by the Imperial Government, and the Imperial authorities, in recovering the Africans who were stolen at Serinhaem, and in the following up the prosecution of the individuals implicated in this criminal speculation, is far from being satisfactory; and in consequence of instructions from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, he begs to intimate to the Brazilian Government, that if they do not use their utmost efforts in discovering the real aggressors in this or any other similar acts of slave-trading, and in prosecuting them with all the rigour of the law, the British Government will be obliged again to put in force the provisions of the Act of Parliament of 1845; and that while in this case British cruisers will exercise on the coast, in the rivers, and in the harbours of Brazil, that watchfulness and activity which the agents and officers of the Brazilian Government neglect to use, British Courts of Justice will pronounce those sentences of condemnation from which Brazilian Courts may be found to shrink (Doc. No. 1).

This note of Mr. Jerningham was answered by his Excellency J. M. da Silva Paranhos, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at Rio de Janeiro, in a note dated the 6th of April ultimo (Doc. No. 2).

The Brazilian Minister in London was not less astonished than his Government had been, by the contents of the note of the 7th of March, and it was not until he recalled to his recollection, and combined certain facts and circumstances of which he had personal cognizance, and which at the receipt of the note were unknown to his Government, that he was able to discover any cause which, without impeaching the justice which ought to preside over every act of such an enlightened Government as Her Britannic Majesty's, could have provoked so unexpected and so harsh an intimation as that given to the Imperial Government.

Having done so, these same facts and circumstances now fully convince the Brazilian Minister that no other motives could have induced the British Government to forward to their Legation at Rio instructions authorizing the note of the 7th March, but premature and unexact intelligence transmitted to the Foreign Office, immediately after the occurrence at Serinhaem.

During an interview with Lord Wodehouse, on the 14th of March ultimo, the Brazilian Minister observed, with the utmost surprise, that the Under Secretary of State spoke of the affair at Serinhaem in such a manner as clearly to reveal how unacquainted his Lordship was with the true fact of the case, and this to such a degree as even to call into question the undoubted and notorious recovery and arrival in the city of Recife, of almost all the Africans brought by the slaver pilot-boat which had been captured at Serinhaem.

Like assertions were repeated by Lord Palmerston to the Brazilian Minister, in an accidental conversation which they had on the subject, at Her Majesty's levee, on the 7th of May. In the course of that conversation his Lordship

appeared to be thoroughly persuaded that not a single African had been recovered or redeemed from the possession of the slavers, and that this state of things was attributable to the criminal neglect of the President and other authorities of Pernambuco.

Comparing the impressions of the Foreign Office and of the Prime Minister with the manner in which the English Consul at Pernambuco addressed the President of the Province on the 27th of October, immediately after the capture of the pilot-boat had been effected, when Mr. Cowper had, not unnaturally, been misled by some articles published in the newspapers of the Opposition party at Pernambuco (see Docs. Nos. 3 and 4); and considering, moreover, that the Consul is the official channel through which the British Legation must have obtained information of the attempt at Serinhaem, which caused it to address to the Imperial Government the confidential note of the 13th of November (Doc. No. 5), in which it repeats similar misstatements to those which are to be met with in the correspondence of the Consul; all these facts and circumstances, combined with the date of the note of the 7th of March, make it logically to be presumed, if it does not put it beyond all doubt, that the instructions of the Foreign Office, in virtue of which the British Legation considered itself authorized to address that note to the Imperial Government, were the result of the first impressions created by the precipitate and incorrect communications made to it by the Consul, Mr. Cowper; the said instructions having been transmitted to the British Legation on a matter the full particulars of which were then still involved in all the doubts and uncertainties of police and preliminary investigations.

It is said that this was logically to be presumed, because it was materially impossible within the intervening space of time that the British Government should have had knowledge of the note of the Imperial Government dated the 2nd February (Doc. No. 6), before it transmitted to the British Legation at Rio its instructions for the note of the 7th of March.

It was, indeed, only on the 2nd of February that the Imperial Government was enabled to furnish to the British Legation, in a note of that date, the most full and complete information in addition to what they had already communicated in their confidential note of the 4th of December (Doc. No. 7). The distance and the want of frequent means of communication between the Province of Pernambuco and Rio de Janeiro are adequate causes for that delay in the rapid remittance of the necessary official communications, without which the Government cannot with justice and security take any deliberation, or even affirm as actual facts statements which previously exist only in the domain of a doubtful publicity.

Had Her Britannic Majesty's Diplomatic and Consular Agents in Brazil reported to Her Britannic Majesty's Government these difficulties, the Brazilian Minister is convinced that the Government of His Imperial Majesty would have been spared the surprise and mortification caused by this note of the 7th of March, as the British Government certainly would not have authorised an act so little warranted by the actual facts.

In order to have avoided a new incident of this sort, so particularly disagreeable in the present state of the relations between the two countries, it certainly cannot be deemed claiming too much from British justice and fairness to have expected from the British Legation, which, before the receipt of the Foreign Office instructions, had been informed of the regular course of judicial proceedings entered upon at Serinhaem, that it would have delayed for a while acting on such instructions, bringing, as its justification, to the knowledge of the British Government the actual and improved state of affairs. And this reticence might the more reasonably have been practised by the British Legation for the sake of avoiding the contradiction in which the note of the 7th of March placed it in reference to its own spontaneous statements, contained in another note which it had, by its own sense of propriety, been compelled to address to the Imperial Government on the 4th of the preceding month of February (Doc. No. 8). In that note it had, the British Government is aware, highly praised the sincerity and zeal of which the Imperial Government had just given proof in the case of the capture of the North American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," in the waters of St. Mathew's.

In fact, on the 4th of February, the British Legation addressed itself in the following terms to the Brazilian Government: "The capture of this schooner

by the Imperial cruiser, whilst it is an indication of the firm determination of the Imperial Government to crush all attempts at reviving the detestable African Traffic, will add an additional prestige to the moral force of the Executive, &c." Yet scarcely had another month elapsed before the very Legation which then voluntarily expressed this opinion of the conduct of the Imperial Government, sends to the very same Government which so lately it had acknowledged to be firmly determined to crush all attempts at reviving the Traffic, another note in which it acrimoniously and injuriously asperses the honour of the Imperial Government, by calling that Government to "a proper sense of their own dignity," by calling "upon the Imperial Government to fulfil their engagements in the most honourable and complete manner," and by threatening an independent State with the "putting into execution" the Act of 1845, which, when there was even less evidence of zeal and of accompanying success, the British Government had withdrawn.

Unfortunately, however, these considerations, which should have determined the British Legation not to bring this intimation before the Imperial Government, did not prevail, and the Imperial Government had to receive this new proof of the distrust which unfortunately is again manifested by the Government of England to the Empire of Brazil, notwithstanding the fact that Brazil is one of the best foreign customers of the people and productions of England.

But there appears not only to have been forwarded to the British Government incomplete information, whereby inquiries and proceedings are represented as being terminated, while in reality they were being rigorously prosecuted and followed up in their regular course. That in itself is just ground of astonishment and complaint. But that which even causes greater surprise to the Brazilian Minister is that there appears, moreover, to have existed a total want of information about the principal circumstance of the occurrence at Serinhaem, viz., the immediate seizure of 162 Africans on board the pilot-boat when captured. Otherwise, the Brazilian Minister would not have heard it doubted, contested, and even denied, that such a circumstance had really taken place; when from the correspondence of the British Agents at Rio de Janeiro and in Pernambuco (Docs. Nos. 3 and 5), it is seen that that number of Africans was captured in the very beginning, and was brought to Recife, and that the only difference of opinion was as to the real number of negroes which had been lost.

The Brazilian Minister, therefore, deeply regretting being compelled to believe that this unexpected fact has been provoked by a far more unexpected combination of circumstances which concurred, in order that the Government of Her Majesty should not discover in the occurrence at Serinhaem and its ulterior phases that sincerity, zeal, and activity, and that firm determination to crush all attempts at reviving the Traffic which the British Legation itself had, on the 4th of February, acknowledged and applauded in the Government of the Emperor, thinks it to be his unavoidable and imperative duty to bring directly to the knowledge of the Earl of Clarendon a clear and succinct exposition of the whole case, and of what is going on at Pernambuco in consequence of the capture made at Serinhaem, and to transmit to Lord Clarendon authentic copies of different documents connected with the case, in order to place beyond all doubt the accuracy of the statements made in this Memorandum.

On the 5th of July of last year the President of Pernambuco received some reports that, in the district of the Rio Formoso, rumours were afloat of a projected landing of Africans. Investigations were instantly ordered and begun, but no evidence whatever could be obtained to justify the apprehension that the Slave Trade was about to be revived in a province in which Mr. Cowper himself (Doc. No. 3) had declared that the Traffic had entirely ceased. Notwithstanding the absence of all proof, the President ordered the Chief of Police, the Judge of the district of Rio Formoso, and the officer commanding the naval station, to direct all their attention, efforts, and watchfulness to the spot suspected.

The President's orders were punctually and faithfully obeyed. On the 27th of the said month of July, and again on the 3rd of September, the officer commanding the naval station informed the President that the war-corvette "Itamarica," and war-brig "Cearense," having cruized on the part of the sea-coast suspected, did not observe the least evidence of any intended landing of Africans. The same inability to detect suspicious circumstances attended the English steamer "Rifleman," which, having left the port of Recife on different

occasions in order to cruize to the southward between the 5th and 14th of October, returned to Recife without result (Docs. Nos. 9 and 10).

The suspicions originated by the denunciation of the 5th of July had, therefore, been considerably allayed, when, on the 11th of October, three months later, a pilot-boat, reporting itself to be infected, and carrying the quarantine flag, came and anchored close to the Island of San Aleixo, in the waters of Serinhaem.

On the 12th of the same month a lighter, employed in carrying stones from that island to the Recife, making for the port of the island, the pilot-boat became alarmed, weighed anchor, and with precipitation entered the Bay of Serinhaem. Then, for the first time, rumours arose that the vessel had a cargo of Africans. The local authority, who had no force himself to act, without any delay sent notice to the commander of the small detachment of soldiers stationed at the town of Rio Formoso, five leagues distant from the Bay of Serinhaem. That authority was an officer called the Delegate of Serinhaem, and it is important to state that his name was Drummond.

The Commander of the detachment put himself and it immediately under forced march, and arrived on the spot early on the morning of the 13th. He proceeded at once to seize the pilot-boat, and found 162 African negroes on board. In his official report he informed his superiors that part of the negroes had been taken from the vessel before his arrival, and that, in spite of the search which he had instituted for their recovery, it had not been possible either to capture any of them or the slaver's crew, which, before he reached Serinhaem, had abandoned the vessel and escaped.

As soon as the President of the Province received notice of the occurrence, he sent to Serinhaem the war-corvette "Itamarica," having on board the Chief of the Naval Station, to bring to the capital of the province the vessel captured, with the Africans found in her, and to put on foot the most vigorous proceedings for the apprehension of the slaver's crew and the discovery of the lost negroes.

The "Itamarica" returned to Recife on the 24th, bringing with her the pilot-boat and the 162 Africans, having also taken, without any result, every possible step that time permitted in order to apprehend the crew, and to verify whether, in reality, any of the Africans not recovered had been stolen.

The exertions made for this purpose by both the naval and police authorities not having been successful, the President ordered a superior officer, namely, the Chief of Police of the Province, to proceed to the district of Rio Formoso, and there to institute the most scrupulous inquest, to arrest all to whom suspicion attached, and apprehend any Africans who might have been stolen before the vessel had been captured. The steps taken by the Chief of Police were not unfruitful, for he was fortunate enough to apprehend, and consequently to restore freedom to, 9 of the negroes who had been taken from the pilot-boat, and he also obtained knowledge of many circumstances of the crime, and of several of its authors and accomplices, against whom he took criminal proceedings.

The Imperial Government, approving the conduct of the President of Pernambuco, reiterated again, on the 31st of December, the most positive orders to the President for continuing to act with vigour, and to take new judicial proceedings in the district of Rio Formoso; and the Government arrested immediately, at Rio de Janeiro, and remitted to Pernambuco, the Portuguese subject Antonio Severino de Avellar, about whom suspicions were raised in consequence of the communications which had been received from the President of Pernambuco of his being implicated in the case of Serinhaem.

Lord Clarendon will see from these spontaneous measures the firm resolution, the zeal, and the energy with which the Imperial Government acted on the discovery of the crime committed at Serinhaem, and that which in them is worthy of his Lordship's most special attention, is the extraordinary measures which the Imperial Government did not hesitate to dictate to the President of Pernambuco for the effective and severe punishment of all the criminals, and for the recovery and restitution to freedom of the 38 strayed Africans.

The results of this vigour was the restitution to freedom of 21 Africans, in addition to the 162 originally found on board the pilot-boat, missing a diminute number; and 183 Africans brought by the pilot-boat are at this moment enjoying the freedom which the laws of the Empire guarantee to them.

Next in importance as resulting from this determination and vigour are,

first, the arrest and the indictment of the suspected authors and accomplices of this crime, among whom are persons whose social position has not prevailed as an obstacle to the action of the authorities; secondly, the deportation of the Portuguese slave-dealer Avellar, who, notwithstanding the want of sufficient judicial proof against him, has nevertheless been deported from the Empire by a special Administrative Act; thirdly, the arrest of the son of the Delegate Drummond, against whom there is vehement evidence of his having availed himself of his father's authority, and with the latter's acquiescence, in order to mislead some negroes, who, fortunately, are now already recovered; and, lastly, the dismissal of the Delegate Drummond, who was himself also implicated by the judicial investigations for complicity in the escape of the captain of the pilot-boat, and in the destruction of the ship's papers, blemishing in this manner the credit of a fact which otherwise would have been as complete as was the seizure of the North American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*." It is to be most deeply regretted that this man so misunderstood and neglected his obvious duty, but neither the President of the Province, nor the Imperial Government, nor any Government whatever in the world, is to be considered, with justice, as solidary with their Agents' faults. That which the Imperial Government was bound to do when it discovered this deplorable breach of trust, it immediately and spontaneously did. It dismissed Drummond from the service of the Emperor, notwithstanding the first circumstances of the case having been so creditable to the Delegate's intervention in this occurrence. The Government did not hesitate for one moment, not only in dismissing him, but it proceeded criminally and judicially against him. In this manner they completely satisfied their duty, and what now remains in his case is expected with confidence from the justice of the tribunals of the country.

The first favourable circumstance above alluded to in Drummond's case, was the merit of the original recovery of the 162 African negroes, and the capture of the pilot-boat. The British Consul at Pernambuco attributed the recovery and the capture to him; so also did the Provincial Government, which even praised him officially; and it was undoubtedly due to this first phasis of the occurrence at Serinhaem that the British Government authorised their Consul to thank that Delegate, if the Consul deemed him worthy of thanks.

Lord Clarendon is no doubt aware that Mr. Cowper called on the President of Pernambuco, in order to make him acquainted with his having received this authority to thank Drummond from his Government, as he wished to obtain the President's acquiescence before putting it into execution. Returning with cordiality the regularity and propriety of such a proceeding, the President replied that Mr. Cowper felt naturally some enthusiasm for the Delegate Drummond, in consequence of the first notices which had arrived at Pernambuco of the part Drummond had played in the capture; that this had also been the Government's own early impression, but that posterior investigations had made them alter their opinion. During this interview Mr. Cowper admitted to the President that the Delegate Drummond had confessed to him that he (Drummond) had favoured the escape of the captain of the pilot-boat.

In consequence, however, of the observations then made by the President to Mr. Cowper, the latter appeared to renounce the favourable impression he had previously entertained of Mr. Drummond's conduct at Serinhaem on this occasion; and the Brazilian Minister is without information of Mr. Cowper having expressed to the Delegate Drummond those praises which he had been instructed by the Foreign Office to bestow on that functionary of the Imperial Government.

The admission made by Mr. Cowper to the President of the Province of Pernambuco, which the Brazilian Minister has just brought under Lord Clarendon's particular attention, is an additional proof that complete information of the occurrence at Serinhaem had not been transmitted to the Foreign Office. For had the Foreign Office been fully informed on the case, it would have been spared the inconsistency of having directed a Brazilian officer to be thanked, whom its own medium of the proposed thanks was thus obliged to condemn.

It is sincerely to be hoped that Mr. Cowper, with this testimony of his own conscience, and influenced by the arguments of the President, will have abstained from acting on those instructions from his Government which so obviously followed from defective information, especially as Lord Clarendon allowed him the full exercise of his discretion in so delicate a matter.

Such is the present state of the affair which occurred at Serinhaem. These, in few words, are the characteristic circumstances of this case, so ill appreciated as to have been cause of the presentation of the note of the 7th of March. All these series of measures put into execution by the Imperial Government and the President of Pernambuco, in order to bring the judicial proceedings of Serinhaem to the state in which they now are, were executed long before the date of that note, and they were the result of the spontaneous and decided determination of the Imperial Government to completely suppress the Slave Trade.

Of this the British Legation at Rio de Janeiro possessed ample proofs. The Imperial Government had never ceased, from the first notice it received of the occurrence at Serinhaem, to transmit to the Legation, as they always do, every particular and information which came to their knowledge, and which they thought might serve to hinder the realisation of any other plan, or attempt at renewing the Traffic. It was the Imperial Government who hastened to communicate to the British Legation the result of the police investigations, and the revelations made in the presence of the Chief of Police at Rio de Janeiro, by the Portuguese slave-dealer Avellar, when arrested on suspicion of complicity in the case of Serinhaem; revelations which, for the first time, showed that the foreign slave-traders (Portuguese and Spanish) on being deported from Brazil, had met, in the United States, with all kinds of facilities and protection from American ship-owners, ready to give them the benefit of their flag, and that the attempts to renew the Traffic, and force it again on Brazil, had no native origin or cooperation, but were entirely conspiracies and combinations, planned by foreigners out of the reach of the laws of the Empire. This intelligence was rewarded by the noble capture of the North American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," which extorted the voluntary applause even of the British Legation.

In addition to the system of open and loyal communication towards the British Legation, Lord Clarendon knows that the Imperial Government has always been desirous to establish a system of mutual cooperation for the praiseworthy end of the extinction of the Slave Trade in Brazil.

The Imperial Government's watchfulness and activity have, the Brazilian Minister repeats, been crowned with the most happy results. The British Government is perfectly well aware that, at the risk of offending and wounding the constitutional scruples of an influential political class in Brazil, the Imperial Government did not hesitate to propose, and that they obtained from the Legislative Chamber of the country the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, and the additional dispositions of the Decree of the 5th of January, 1854, which submits the crime of attempting to introduce Africans to the judgment of special Judges, appointed by Government, and by which the penalties of this crime were augmented.

The Imperial Government's endeavours have been more than once acknowledged and praised by the British Government, and despatches from the Foreign Office to the Governments of various European States urging them to adopt the legislation of Brazil on the subject, have been laid before the Parliament of Great Britain.

With these new means of action, the Imperial Government has been able to strike such terror into the hearts of the slave-traders, that since their enactment scarcely two attempts at landing slaves have occurred on the coast of Brazil, and even these, it is clearly proved, were organized out of the Empire, were conducted by foreign capital and under the protection of the United States' flag. Of these same two attempts, if the capture of Serinhaem was not so complete and brilliant as that of the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*," it is nevertheless incontestable that the contraband of slave-trading is no longer a possible object of speculation in Brazil, for the watchfulness of the Imperial Government is untiring; and even in the event of the slave-trader escaping English cruizers on the coast of Africa, he will forcibly find in the authorities of the country, and in the measures of prevision and of restraint combined by the Imperial Government, the complete discomfiture of his speculations, and the severe punishment of his crime. It is in this way that there can now be seen in the Blue Books laid before Parliament official reports of all the British Consuls in the various Provinces of the Empire, informing the Foreign Office of the complete extinction of the Slave Trade in their respective districts; and with truth, for the Slave Trade is extinct in Brazil. Condemned by the enlightened opinion of the country, threatened and punished by the laws and the authorities,

the slave-trader has no longer an opportunity of organizing his plans and agencies within the Empire. If proofs beyond these Consular reports are wanting, there they are in the captures by Brazilian cruizers and authorities at Serinhaem and St. Matthew's, and in the whole of that system of watchfulness to frustrate the projects, now perfectly well known by the Imperial Government, of American ship-owners associated with slave-traders, who have either been deported from the Empire or escaped from it. The Documents Nos. 21, 22, 23, and 24, plainly prove the systematic efforts of the Imperial Government, in order to prevent and punish all these criminal attempts above alluded to.

In the presence of this sincerity, and of the efficacy of means which, in good faith, cannot be denied to the Imperial Government, as to their determination, in all cases, to put a stop to the Slave Trade, and in the presence of all these measures and precautions spontaneously and energetically executed by the said Government, how can the note of the 7th of March be explained, without putting it in contradiction with the truth of the facts already known and appreciated by the British Government themselves? What benefit can there result in favour of the extinction of the Slave Trade, which England so much desires, by thus discrediting and demoralising the actions of the Brazilian Government; accusing it of negligence and carelessness, in a case in which they have shown the most decided energy? Such a proceeding on the part of the British Government, on the contrary, may contribute to encourage the slave-traders, who, explaining to themselves the energy developed by the Imperial Government as only a foreign coercion, will not have, therefore, any faith in the firm determination of the Government of the country to keep the Slave Trade down to permanent extinction.

Such a proceeding, far from contributing to the end which both Governments have at heart, tends to create new obstacles, by placing the Imperial Government in the disadvantageous position of having to brave national susceptibility on an object, success in which requires them to possess the whole support of the nation.

Such a proceeding, finally, loosens the relations between the two Governments, by the resentment caused by an unmerited censure, wounding in its form the sovereignty of Brazil, and by destroying reciprocal confidence, which is an essential element of the mutual cooperation of both Governments for the complete extinction of the Slave Trade.

For all those reasons, the Brazilian Minister hopes that the Government of Her Majesty the Queen, taking into consideration the facts rectified in this Memorandum, will adopt such expedient as they may judge best fitted to destroy the disagreeable impression caused to the Government of His Majesty the Emperor by the note of the 7th of March, against which, in virtue of instructions received from his Government, the Brazilian Minister finds it to be his duty to remonstrate.

London, June 9, 1856.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos, March 7, 1856.

[See Inclosure in No. 2.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham, April 6, 1856.

[See Inclosure in No. 6.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

Consul Cowper to the President of the Province of Pernambuco, October 27, 1855.

[See Slave Trade Papers presented 1856, Class B, Inclosure 4 in No. 118.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 13.

The President of the Province of Pernambuco to Consul Cowper, October 29, 1855.

[Ibid., Inclosure 2 in No. 181.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 13.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos, November 13, 1855.

[Ibid., Inclosure 5 in No. 118.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 13.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham, February 2, 1856.

[Ibid., Inclosure 1 in No. 144.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 13.

Senhor Paranhos to Mr. Jerningham, December 4, 1855.

[Ibid., Inclosure 1 in No. 128.]

Inclosure 8 in No. 13.

Mr. Jerningham to Senhor Paranhos, February 4, 1856.

[Ibid., Inclosure 2 in No. 142.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 13.

Extract from the Port Register, October 11, 1855.

(Translation.)

DEPARTURE.—LEFT the Roads ("lamarão"), under quarantine, the English war steamer "Rifleman," Commander Christian, whither bound I know not.

Extract from the Port Register, October 14, 1855.

ENTRY.—Anchored in the Roads, the English war steamer "Rifleman," Commander Christian.

(Signed) JOAO DE SIGUEIRA CAMPELLO,
Lieutenant.

Inclosure 10 in No. 13.

Report of the Captain of the Port.

(Translation.)

THE English steamer " Rifleman " arrived on the 2nd from Bahia, and anchored in the Roads.

On the 5th, she weighed, and cruized to the southward.

On the 8th, she anchored in the Roads.

On the 11th, she weighed, and cruized, going southward.

On the 14th, she anchored in the Roads.

On the 15th, entered for the Mosqueiro.

On the 25th, left the harbour, and to-day again appears in company with the English brig of war.

Recife, October 27, 1855.

(Signed)

ELISIARIO ANTONIO DOS SANTOS.

Inclosure 11 in No. 13.

The Minister of Justice to Senhor Paranhos.

(Translation.)

(Private.)

Excellent Sir,

Department of Justice, Rio de Janeiro,
December 31, 1855.

IN reference to the letter of the President of Pernambuco of the 4th instant, copy of which was transmitted by him to your Excellency, I have to notify to your Excellency that as the said letter shows that 47 Africans were carried off, of whom 9 had been already found and set at liberty, the disgraceful negligence of the Police Delegate in that affair is evident, and is deserving of severe and exemplary punishment. The Imperial Government, fully aware of the duty and political interest of repressing the same, sent orders to repeat the search in the suspected mills, with the personal aid of the Head of the Police, to proceed to fresh inquiries for discovering the crime, imprisoning the guilty, and apprehending the kidnapped Africans, to dismiss the Delegate, and to replace him by some one superior or foreign to local interests.

The fact, first, that the said Delegate had allowed the captain of the slaver to retire quietly, when the said vessel was not yet captured, thus leaving him at liberty to come to an understanding with the interested parties; secondly, that he did not seize the papers on board which would serve to prove the crime; thirdly, that he impeded and opposed the action of the Head of the Police in verifying the crime; fourthly, that he took no steps to apprehend and guard the Africans until the detachment should arrive, so that it is very clear that it was not because the Africans were secure that they were not all carried off before the arrival of the detachment, but because the robbers had not the means for transporting them; these facts induce the suspicion that the negligence of Colonel Menezes was nothing else than connivance with his son, and consequently a complicity with the offence, according to Law No. 581 of 1850, Article 3.

Consequently orders were sent at that date to the President of the province to imprison and proceed against the Delegate, who was the cause of the criminal abduction of 47 Africans.

The Imperial Government expects that by fresh researches, and the imprisonment and prosecution of the Delegate, who by his power in the locality impeded the action of justice, the crime may be satisfactorily proved, and consequently punished by the Courts.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE THOMAZ NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

Inclosure 12 in No. 13.

The Head of Police to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

(Private.)

Excellent Sir,

Secretariat of the City Police, November 17, 1855.

IN the interrogatory to which I subjected the culprit Antonio Severino d'Avellar, I was able to discover that the places on the African coast most liable to the carrying off of Africans to the south of Benguella are, Nuquemeni, Bay of the Elephant, and the vicinity of the same. In Angola, Ambriz, and Cabinda, the Traffic is difficult, because they are well known and populous. To the north of Benguella the places most favourable for the Traffic are Molembo, Chirichola, and Congo. There is in this neighbourhood a Cape called "Cabeça de Cobra," which being little frequented by English cruizers from a fear of the shallows, is well suited for the embarkation of Africans, because it is accessible to the little vessels which are usually the most employed in the Traffic. It is said also that the River Zaire is a very rapid stream, and not easily accessible to those boats, which find it difficult to overcome the current, and that in order to get Africans away from there it is necessary to build on the spot vessels fitted for the Traffic, which are easily known from the quality of the timber, which is that which grows in those quarters. Such are those of which the palhabote is built which was captured in Pernambuco. The same Avellar added also that usually the vessels sent to the African coast are purchased of North Americans, of light build and small value, because these Americans, from the privilege enjoyed by their flag, are the most addicted to this Traffic. The above is such information as I could gather without appearing to have any ostensible object, and which I consider useful to bring to your Excellency's knowledge.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU,

The Head of Police.

Inclosure 13 in No. 13.

The Minister of Justice to the President of the Province of Pernambuco.

(Translation.)

(Private.)

Excellent Sir,

*Department of Justice, Rio de Janeiro,**December 31, 1855.*

THE Emperor directs that the Head of the Police, in renewing the researches which he is to make, either himself or by delegates in his confidence, for the apprehension of the Africans carried off in Serinhaem, as also in the fresh acts and proceeding which he is to institute for the imprisonment of those declared guilty, and the punishment of the Delegate and of others who may be discovered, shall observe those rules which were laid down in the confidential communication addressed to your Excellency on the 4th December instant, that is to say:

1st. That all the Bozal Africans that may be found in the researches that may be made shall be considered as newly imported and carried off at Serinhaem.

2nd. That instructed slaves (Ladinos) from the suspected works be arrested that they may be obliged, by promises or by force, to declare and give information where the Bozal Africans and the people of the crew are.

3rd. That Colonel João Manoel de Barros Wanderley shall be included in the prosecution, and obliged to justify himself, because of the following indications, which are ample for such proceedings: because he was the consignee of the vessel, or person to whom it was addressed; because it militates against him that he has been already engaged in another landing; and because João José de Varias is a creature of his.

4th. That some of the Bozal Africans shall accompany the new researches for the capture, with an interpreter.

5th. That valuable rewards be promised to any one who may give information or bring before the authorities any Bozal Africans or any person of the crew of the palhabote.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE THOMAZ NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

Inclosure 14 in No. 13.

The Minister of Justice to the President of the Province of Pernambuco.

(Translation.)

Excellent Sir,

Department of Justice, Rio de Janeiro,

December 31, 1855.

BY the letter No. 407bis which your Excellency addressed to me on the 21st instant, I was informed that Dr. Antonio de Vasconcellos Menezes de Drummond, declared an accomplice in the abduction of some of the free Africans who were carried off from the palhabote on the bar of Serinhaem, was already in the prison of this city.

Your Excellency will inform me if the aforesaid Doctor delivered himself up to the prison of his own accord, and will issue a repetition of the orders for arresting the other offenders.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE THOMAZ NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

Inclosure 15 in No. 13.

The Minister of Justice to the President of the Province of Pernambuco.

(Translation.)

(Private.)

Excellent Sir,

Department of State, Rio de Janeiro,

December 31, 1855.

AS it may happen that Antonio Severino de Avellar, who was arrested in this city, and sent to your province by the steamer "Beberibe" as accused of the crime of landing Africans in Serinhaem, may receive an order to be liberated by the power of *habeas corpus*, or found not guilty in the suit in which he is prosecuted, His Majesty the Emperor commands that in either of these cases the said Avellar be banished from the Empire, remaining in prison until he departs directly from that port for Europe; as it appears that by the confidential communication which I addressed to your Excellency on the 16th November, this step was already intimated.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE THOMAZ NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

Inclosure 16 in No. 13.

The President of the Province of Pernambuco to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

Excellent Sir,

Palace of the Government of Pernambuco,

February 11, 1856.

ON the 9th instant 10 Bozal Africans of those carried away from the palhabote captured in October at the bar of Serinhaem, reached this city, sent by the authorities of Serinhaem (copy No. 1). I immediately sent a copy of the same note to the Head of the Police, directing him to deal with the Africans according to law; and by the inclosed copy No. 2 of the letter of yesterday from the said Head of the Police, your Excellency will learn that they are already placed in the Marine Arsenal, and also that they were brought before the authorities there by João Isidor da Paixão, who reported that he had found them in the bush ("matta") of the Taitinga works of the Carmelites within the said district, and that he gave them in order to receive the reward offered in the notices published there. All which I have the honour to report to your Excellency as it is my duty.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE BENTO DA CUNHA E FIGUEREDO.

Inclosure 17 in No. 13.

Senhor Paranhos to Senhor Moreira.(Translation.)
(Private.)*Department of Foreign Affairs,
Rio de Janeiro, April 14, 1856.*

THE Minister of Justice has informed me by private communication of the 12th of April, that two more Africans of those brought by the palhabote captured in Serinhaem, have been taken through the measures of the President of Pernambuco, and are now in the Marine Arsenal of that Province; they were found by an inspector of the quarter in a "mucambo" within the bush ("matta") of the Ubaca works of that district; and that Francisco de Paula Cavalcanti Wanderley Lins, commonly called Chico Caçador, accused of the crime of taking away free Africans from the said palhabote, has been taken to the prison of Serinhaem.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 18 in No. 13.

Senhor Paranhos to Senhor Moreira.

(Translation.)

*Department of Foreign Affairs,
Rio de Janeiro, March 1, 1856.*

THE President of the Province of Pernambuco has communicated to me, by advices dated 23rd February last, that the orders of the Department of Justice are already complied with, according to which the Portuguese subject Antonio Severino d'Avellar was sent out of the Empire on board the English steamer "Thamar," which left that port on the 1st February last, having signed the usual bond in the Police Department.

All which I submit for your Excellency's information, renewing, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 19 in No. 13.

Extract from a Private Note addressed on the 11th of April, 1856, by the Department of Justice to the Department of Foreign Affairs of Rio de Janeiro.

(Translation.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency copy of the confidential communication of the President of Pernambuco of the 19th ultimo, in which he states that the English Consul in that Province asked for his opinion in respect to the intimation which he had received from the English Ministry in London, to thank Colonel Drummond for the part which he had taken in the capture of the contraband slave-ship in Serinhaem, in case the Consul should find that Drummond deserved it.

The President states that in replying with sincerity to the good intent of the Consul in consulting him, he told him that he was exceedingly pleased with Colonel Drummond at the moment when he received the account of the capture of the slaver, and that he had bestowed the highest praise on him, as the Imperial Government had also ordered that its approbation would be made known; but that subsequent investigation and inquiry had caused both himself and the Government to change their opinion, and that they had serious suspicions of Drummond; that then the Consul, although he was very favourable to Drummond, and revealed the confession that he had made to him of his having allowed the captain of the palhabote to escape, went away without saying whether he was inclined or not to signify his approbation of him.

Inclosure 20 in No. 13.

Senhor Paranhos to Senhor Moreira.

(Translation.)
(Private.)

*Department of Foreign Affairs,
Rio de Janeiro, February 13, 1856.*

ACCORDING to a communication made to me by the Minister of Justice, in a private note dated yesterday, the commander of the schooner "*Mary E. Smith*" gave information that two North American vessels, one a schooner of one mast, "*Wilcot*," of New York, and one a lugger, had entered into one of the harbours on the coast of Africa, between Cape Lopez and Loango, to land slaves for Brazil.

The adventure was to be made by Joaquim Ignacio Riveiroza de Ouziga, brother of Don Francisco Riveiroza, who had been commanded to leave the Empire because he was a notorious slave-trader, had remained a long time in Lisbon, and is said to be now in Rio de Janeiro.

On receipt of that information his Excellency recommended the Presidents of the provinces, and the Head of the Police of the capital, to watch very carefully for those two vessels, and also to make the strictest inquiries with a view to discover whether the said Don Francisco Riveiroza was in Brazil, in order that he might be put in prison and proceeded against with the utmost rigour of the law, if he should be involved in any new slave-trading speculations.

It being now unquestionable that slave-traders are directing their operations for the African coast from the United States' ports, in order to import Africans into Havana or Brazil, I shall, under this date, direct the Imperial Legation in Washington to recommend to Brazilian Consular Agents in those States, through the channel of the general Consulate, that they do communicate to the Imperial Government, either through it or directly, as may be most expedient, the departure of any vessels suspected of being intended for the Traffic, the marks by which they may be known, the names of the shippers and other interested parties, the nature of their cargo, the place to which it is probable, or to which it may be presumed, they are bound, and any other information which may enable the Government to take all anticipatory precautions, in order to frustrate the various attempts that may be made from the North American ports to introduce Africans into Brazil.

I take, &c.

(Signed) JOSE MARIA DA SILVA PARANHOS.

Inclosure 21 in No. 13.

M. d'Andrada to Mr. Crampton.

M. le Ministre,

*Légation Impériale du Brésil aux Etats Unis,
Washington, le 12 Mai, 1856.*

IL est aujourd'hui hors de doute que les trafiquants d'esclaves dirigent des ports des Etats Unis leurs opérations pour la côte d'Afrique, afin de transporter des noirs à Cuba et au Brésil. Ici se construisent et d'ici partent les navires négriers qui vont charger à Ambriz, sur le fleuve Zaire, et dans d'autres ports de ces parages.

Deux nouvelles tentatives de ce genre viennent d'échouer, grâce à la vigilance des croiseurs Brésiliens.

Le navire que l'on a capturé au mois d'Octobre dernier, à l'entrée du port de Serinhaem (Brésil), ayant à bord des nègres, et dont on n'a pu reconnaître le pavillon, appartient, selon toute apparence, au commerce des Etats Unis.

De même, la goëlette "*Mary E. Smith*," dont le brick Brésilien "*Olinda*" a dernièrement effectué la prise, à St. Mathieu, naviguait sous le pavillon de l'Union.

Le capitaine de ce navire a déclaré que deux autres embarcations de la même nation également (un lougre et la goëlette "*Wilcot*," de New York), étaient entrés dans un port de la côte d'Afrique, entre le Cap Lopes et Loango, pour y prendre des noirs à destination du Brésil.

Ces faits, et d'autres encore, fondent à croire que les abominables trafiquans d'esclaves ont établi aux Etats Unis le centre de leurs criminelles spéculations.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, jaloux de faire toujours respecter les lois du Brésil, et ferme dans sa volonté d'empêcher toute tentative qui tendrait à faire renaître l'odieuse Traite des Nègres, a appelé l'attention la plus sérieuse de cette Légation sur un objet aussi important.

J'apporterai, dans l'accomplissement de mes devoirs, le plus grand soin, et j'exercerai, comme me l'ordonne le Gouvernement Impérial, la surveillance nécessaire, afin d'empêcher, par les moyens officiels en mon pouvoir, que l'on n'équipe dans ces Etats des navires destinés au transport d'esclaves au Brésil. Et lorsque je n'aurai pu obtenir la détention d'un négrier, je ne manquerai pas d'en prévenir mon Gouvernement, afin qu'averti des tentatives semblables, il puisse prendre des mesures et empêcher des débarquements à couvert sur les côtes de l'Empire.

Afin de mieux informer le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, j'ai donné connaissance à ses Agents Consulaires dans ces Etats de l'ordre que j'ai reçu du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères en leur recommandant à cet égard la vigilance la plus active.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne n'étant pas moins intéressé dans cette répression, j'accepterai avec le plus grand plaisir, et je regarderai comme un service, l'aide et la coopération que vous croirez devoir me donner en cette occasion.

Si vous jugez convenable, M. le Ministre, de recommander aux Agents Consulaires de Sa Majesté la Reine d'adresser à cette Légation, directement, ou par l'intermédiaire de celle que vous dirigez, les renseignements qui pourraient lui être utiles, et de l'informer des tentatives qui se prépareraient dans l'étendue du territoire où chacun d'eux exerce sa juridiction, je vous en aurai la plus vive reconnaissance, car ils me seraient d'un puissant secours pour l'accomplissement de ma tâche.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) F. X. DA C. A. D'ANDRADA.

Inclosure 22 in No. 13.

Mr. Crampton to M. d'Andrada.

Sir,

Washington, May 20, 1856.

IN reply to the letter of the 12th instant which you have done me the honour to address to me on the subject of the Slave Trade, and in particular with reference to the late seizure by the Imperial Brazilian brig "Olinda" of the American schooner "*Mary E. Smith*" having on board a cargo of negroes, I have much pleasure in informing you that by the instructions of my Government, I have been directed to communicate with you freely on all subjects connected with Slave Trade, on all occasions which it may be useful in frustrating the designs of the slave-traders.

Her Majesty's Consuls have already been instructed to communicate to me any information they may obtain, which may lead to the prevention or detection of attempts at carrying on the Slave Trade, and I will not fail to communicate to you such information when received.

I need scarcely assure you that it will always give me sincere pleasure to cooperate with you in carrying out the objects which both our Governments have so much at heart in suppressing that nefarious Traffic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 23 in No. 13.

*M. d'Andrada to M. de Escalante.**Légation Impériale du Brésil,
Washington, le 8 Mai, 1856.*

M. le Ministre,

J'AI reçu de mon Gouvernement l'ordre de m'informer si un certain Don Francisco Riveroza, qui a résidé pendant quelques années au Brésil, est effectivement à Cuba, où l'on suppose qu'il se trouve actuellement.

Comme il ne m'est pas possible d'obtenir ce renseignement par la voie officielle, j'ai pris la liberté de m'adresser à vous, M. le Ministre, et je viens vous prier de vouloir bien me faire avoir les informations dont j'ai besoin, vous remerciant à l'avance de la bonté avec laquelle, j'en suis sûr, vous accueillerez ma demande.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) A. D'ANDRADA.

Inclosure 24 in No. 13.

*M. de Escalante to M. d'Andrada.**Légation d'Espagne, Washington,
le 10 Mai, 1856.*

M. le Chargé d'Affaires,

J'AI l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance, en réponse à votre aimable lettre du 8 du courant, qu'en date d'aujourd'hui j'écris au Capitaine-Général de l'Île de Cuba, lui demandant les renseignements que vous désirez, et que je vous ferai parvenir aussitôt que je les aurai reçus.

Acceptez, &c.
(Signé) A. DE ESCALANTE.

No. 14.

*The Earl of Clarendon to M. Moreira.**Foreign Office, June 24, 1856.*

THE Earl of Clarendon presents his compliments to Mr. Carvalho Moreira, and has the honour to transmit herewith some observations relative to the Memorandum communicated to Lord Clarendon on the 18th instant by M. Moreira, with reference to the subject of an official note respecting the Slave Trade, which Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 7th of March, 1856.

Inclosure in No. 14.

*Memorandum.**June 24, 1856.*

THE ground upon which Mr. Jerningham was instructed to state to the Brazilian Government that Her Majesty's Government would be obliged to resort to a stringent use of the powers conferred on British cruizers by the Act of 1845, was, that the Brazilian authorities in the Province of Pernambuco had not only shown a laxity amounting almost to connivance in the affair of the slave-vessel which arrived at Serinhaem in October 1855, but also that those authorities were unwilling to resort to effectual legal measures in order to detect, or to punish when detected, the persons concerned in that affair.

This opinion is founded upon the following statements:—

1st. That the President of the Province, in order to provide for the security of the slave-vessel, and in order to screen the landing of her cargo, which was undertaken on account of some friends of his, took care beforehand to remove the police authorities from the district of Serinhaem.

2nd. That he purposely contrived that the preliminary process of legal

inquiry as to the facts of the case should be conducted at Rio Formoso, a place distant six leagues from the spot where the slaves were landed; instead of having it held at the Barra, at which place, and not at Rio Formoso, persons were to be found who could identify the men who carried away the slaves.

3rd. That in order to avenge himself upon Colonel Vasconcellos de Drummond and his son Dr. Antonio Drummond, who were the persons who caused the seizure of a great number of the slaves at Serinhaem, and in order to suppress the evidence of the only eye-witnesses of the crime by making them accused parties, he included in the process of accusation, along with some of the real criminals, Dr. Antonio Drummond and other persons who had taken an active part in capturing the slaves.

None of these charges are refuted by Senhor Moreira's Memorandum.

Her Majesty's Government have, however, learnt from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro that the President of Pernambuco has been superseded, and, from another quarter, that the Chief of Police has been dismissed; and if it should be ascertained that these measures are intended by the Brazilian Government as a mark of their disapproval of the conduct of those functionaries, Her Majesty's Government would feel much satisfaction at learning that such an act of necessary vigour had been adopted by the Brazilian Government, and would willingly admit that they have removed the principal grounds upon which Her Majesty's Government considered themselves called upon to instruct Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro to address to Senhor Paranhos the note of the 7th of March.

No. 15.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 26, 1856.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 12th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the language held by you in your conversations with Senhor Paranhos and with the Chevalier de Macedo, respecting the proceedings of the authorities at Pernambuco in regard to the slave-trading affair at Serinhaem.

M. Moreira has complained to me of the note which you addressed to Senhor Paranhos on the 7th of March last, and which, M. Moreira said, had been the cause of great mortification to the Brazilian Government, who felt that they had not deserved the reproach of want of vigilance and of indifference respecting the Slave Trade. I told M. Moreira that you had acted upon your instructions, and that it had not been the intention of Her Majesty's Government to mortify the Government of Brazil; but that the conduct of that Government in regard to the affair of Serinhaem had not been in accordance with the course which of late had been honourably pursued by Brazil, and that the object of Her Majesty's Government was to convey to the Government of Brazil a friendly warning as to the consequences of not acting with vigour at a moment when it was evident that attempts were being made in several quarters to revive the Slave Trade.

M. Moreira said that a renewal of the Slave Trade in Brazil was impossible, as the honour of the Government and the interest of the country were alike opposed to it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 16.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Cowper.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 26, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th ultimo, reporting that Senhor José Bento Figueredo has been removed from the Presidency of Pernambuco.

buco, and that he is to be succeeded by the Chevalier de Macedo; and also that the Chief of the Police of Pernambuco has been dismissed; and I have to state that if this information shall be fully confirmed, it will afford much satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government.

No. 17.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, June 30, 1856.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th instant, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a Memorandum* which has been placed in my hands by Senhor Carvalho Moreira, the Brazilian Minister at this Court, and a copy of the answer† which I have returned to him relative to the representation which he has been instructed to make to Her Majesty's Government with regard to the note which you addressed to Senhor Paranhos on the 7th of March last, in conformity with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 9th of January.

No. 18.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 9.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 12, 1856.

I BEG to have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of April last, in which your Lordship informs me that Her Majesty's Government have been pleased entirely to approve my proceedings in executing the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 9th of January, directing me to warn the Brazilian Government of the consequences that would inevitably ensue, and the measures which Her Majesty's Government would be compelled to adopt, if they did not act up to their engagements honourably and vigorously in Slave Trade repression, all of which was detailed in my note to Senhor Paranhos on the 7th of March.

I lost no time, upon receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 28th April, in requesting an interview with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and when I was honoured with an audience, I communicated to his Excellency the fact of Her Majesty's Government having entirely approved my proceedings, and caused his Excellency to peruse your Lordship's despatch, in order that he might be thoroughly convinced that your Lordship was satisfied with my conduct, at the same time that he might learn the grounds upon which Her Majesty's Government had thought fit to address to the Imperial Government the previous warning.

Senhor Paranhos read your Lordship's despatch with the deepest attention, but made no remark until he came to the paragraph where it is stated "that the want of vigour on the part of the President of Pernambuco in the affair of the slaves landed at Serinhaem in October last, and the indifference with which that conduct has been viewed by the Imperial Government, indicate a change of policy," &c.

"Voilà," exclaimed his Excellency, "où on est injuste."

He then continued reading, and endeavoured to impress what your Lordship bade me to communicate to him well upon his mind.

Senhor Paranhos afterwards observed, that he thought that his note to me under date of the 6th of April, which I transmitted to your Lordship by the "Avon" Royal Mail steam-packet on the 12th of that month in my despatch of the same date, was an answer to what was contained in the despatch which I had just allowed him to peruse.

I asked his Excellency if he should like me to address him a note upon the subject, when he replied that he did not, as he had seized the contents; however, that if I wished to present to him a *note verbale*, I could do so.

On that same evening I met Senhor Paranhos on board Her Majesty's

* No. 13.

† No. 14.

ship the "Indefatigable," at a ball given by Captain Hope and the officers of that vessel, when I had some more conversation with him, and when he told me that he had been thinking about what I had communicated to his Excellency in the morning, and that he remembered perfectly the substance of what I had been instructed to state to him, so that he did not want me to give it him in writing.

I have, however, upon reflection, since sent Senhor Paranhos privately an extract, word for word, of what your Lordship instructed me to state to him in your despatch of the 28th April, in order that there may be no ground hereafter for any misunderstanding, and that he and his colleagues may be under no misapprehension whatsoever as to the real and exact meaning of your Lordship's despatch.

Senhor Paranhos, during the above-mentioned interview, spoke of the efforts which Brazil had made, and was making, to repress all attempts at the renewal of the Traffic. His Excellency said that he considered the Trade completely extinct, but that now and then there might be an endeavour to land Africans; however, that the Imperial Government possessed the means, and would enforce them, to prevent any such illegal acts.

About three weeks ago Senhor Paranhos presented his yearly report to the Legislative Assembly; and when this printed document became known to the Senators, Deputies, and the public, they singled out my correspondence with the Imperial Government therein contained, and commented upon it, especially upon the note of the 7th March, in no measured terms.

They have denounced this latter as a most insolent production, and stated, in their excitement, that I had threatened the Government and insulted the nation.

The Senators and Members of the Chamber of Deputies repudiate all sympathy for the Traffic, and consider the Slave Trade extinct; at the same time that they cannot help acknowledging that daring attempts have been made by some speculators to renew it during the last nine months. In the face and progress of civilization, no country, or its legislature, can now publicly countenance Slave Trade, and I can easily understand why the wrath of the Brazilian Chambers was kindled when my correspondence with the Imperial Government was communicated to them, and their patriotism may easily hold them excused for much violence, and even for the false and unjust impressions which they have received with respect to Her Majesty's Government, and myself. But now that things have entered into their normal state, and that matters progress satisfactorily on slave matters between Her Majesty's Legation and the Brazilian Government, the storm will blow over, and perhaps, after all, the publicity of the whole affair will have the most beneficial effect in at once crushing all further attempt at the renewal of Slave Trade, as it will demonstrate that Her Majesty's Government are resolved not to tolerate its resuscitation, at the same time that it will show that, in many respects, the Brazilian Government are desirous to act with vigour; and that, with the exception of the unfortunate Serinhaem business (which has been the cause why such a decided warning has been given to Brazil), the chief authorities in general throughout the Empire have acted honourably in the repression of Slave Trade.

His Excellency Senhor Paranhos, the other day, said to me that perhaps it was a good thing that the Serinhaem attempt had occurred, as this matter (I do not know whether his Excellency included the whole of the details) would publicly show that the Imperial Government were determined to put an end to the African Slave Traffic.

No. 19.

Mr. Jerningham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 9.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 12, 1856.

I BEG to have the honour to inform your Lordship that Senhor Paiva Teixeira, Chief of Police and Auditor of Marine of the Province of Pernambuco, has been exonerated from his functions by the Imperial Government.

I have no official intelligence on the subject, but I have heard it in various quarters and see it mentioned in public journals.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

WM. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

No. 20.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 9.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, June 17, 1856.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Senhor Sergio Teixeira de Macedo has officially entered upon his functions as the President of this province, in the place of Senhor José Bento da Cunha Figueredo; that Senhor Paiva Teixeira is removed, and replaced by another Chief of the Police; and that the trials of the accused in the Serinhaem Slave Trade affair have at length actually commenced.

I called upon the President last Saturday, for the purpose of paying my respects to him upon his taking office. He, very shortly after my entry, observed, that the Serinhaem affair was extremely disagreeable, and had caused the Government great trouble and embarrassment; and that his first act would be to endeavour to bring it to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion.

I replied that if his Excellency would fix any period convenient to himself, I would wait upon him to discuss the question. He, however, preferred continuing the subject. I therefore remarked, that I presumed the Government had placed him in possession of all the details of the case before he left Rio de Janeiro. He said that the Ministry had supplied him only with a Memorandum upon the subject, and had referred him for details to the correspondence which he would find in the presidential archives here.

He then stated to me the substance of the Memorandum, which was a mere embodiment of the views of the late Provincial Government. I admitted one fact advanced by his Excellency in defence of his predecessor, that, with so extended a coast, it was impossible, even with the strictest vigilance, to avoid an occasional successful landing of slaves; but I denied that the complications which had arisen in this affair, and the gravity which the question had assumed, were caused by an exceptional and perhaps inevitable act, which Her Majesty's Government would have known how to appreciate, but to the culpable behaviour of the provincial authorities.

I then proceeded to recount the circumstances which your Lordship will find embodied in the inclosed Memorandum.

The trial of the accused is proceeding in a fair and praiseworthy manner; the impartial conduct of the new Chief of Police, who is the Judge without jury in this and other Slave Trade causes, merits universal approbation.

I had a third interview with the President yesterday. His Excellency holds out a hope that, by the next mail, I shall be enabled to communicate something decisive to your Lordship.

As regards the proceedings of the President, nothing can appear more frank, honourable, and determined; partially differing from me in my condemnation of the late Government, it is impossible for me not to respect opinions dictated by a generous sentiment. I feel the utmost confidence that M. de Macedo will do his duty; he said to me emphatically, "I do not alone wish to see the innocent acquitted, but the guilty punished; and if it be only to prove that I fear no man—that I seek not his votes, I will arrest, even should I fail to convict, the highest of those against whom a particle of evidence is produced; this will be an example of what may be expected from me in future."

Inclosure in No. 20.

Memorandum respecting the Serinhaem Slave Trade Affair.

1st. IN July last the Imperial Government gave notice to the Provincial Government of Pernambuco that a slaver was expected to arrive at Serinhaem from the coast of Africa, and desired the authorities to be vigilant in preventing the accomplishment of the intended act of Slave Trade. On the 11th of October following, the slaver actually arrived at the spot designated, when every police authority was found to be absent but one, who was confined to his bed by sickness, and consequently unable to act; the result was that 48 of 212 Africans were stolen and reduced to slavery—a fate which would have been shared by the rest, had it not been for the laudable conduct of Colonel Gaspar de Menezes Vasconcellos de Drummond, who seized the vessel, and rescued 162, whom he delivered over to the Government.

The circumstance of the absence of all the police authorities at such a juncture, and after the lengthened intimation which the Government had received, if it does not justify the suspicion of connivance, at least convicts it of culpable and extraordinary neglect and indifference; the plea that Colonel Drummond was the Delegate of the Police, rather weakens than sustains confidence in its good faith, as his appointment was considered by the Government itself as so much of an honorary nature (he having never exercised any authority since 1849) that it had made him no communication in that character for many years.

2ndly. When this neglect became public, the British Consul, in the exercise of his duty, addressed a note to the President, protesting against the laxity of the police and its deplorable consequences, to which his Excellency refused to afford any explanation, or to enter upon any discussion, implying, however, that the Consul's information was erroneous; it was then only, after the receipt of the protest, and it may fairly be assumed in consequence of it, that the Chief of the Police was sent to Serinhaem; prior to his departure, however, it is reported that he sought and obtained from the officers of the "Itamarica," a certificate that to the best of their knowledge and belief the slaver had never contained more Africans than the 162 which had been delivered to the Government; he then proceeded to Serinhaem, and calling upon Colonel Drummond, urged him in the most impressive manner to withdraw his despatch announcing the robbery of the Africans, for the purpose, as he stated, of belying the English Consul.

These facts lead to the inference that had it not been for the protest, no steps would have been taken for the recovery of the stolen Africans, or the punishment of their robbers; and that the Government thus started in bad faith, by the surreptitious means which it adopted to conceal the truth.

3rd. The law is specific upon the point that a process shall be formed at the locality where the crime was committed, but in the present instance this salutary rule was departed from, and the examination took place at Rio Formoso, some leagues off, where it was the extreme of improbability that available evidence could be obtained, whereas had the law been adhered to, eye-witnesses of the crime must have been found at the Barra of Serinhaem.

The Government, by this proceeding, not only became obnoxious to the charge of violating the laws of the Empire, but of doing so for the most sinister purposes, namely, of so avoiding practical evidence that no conviction could take place under the process; and the opinion of the most distinguished advocates is, that it has been perfectly successful in this object.

4thly. Every man who had any hand in the slaver's capture has been either prosecuted, or has fallen under the displeasure of the Government. Thus Colonel Drummond, the captor, is in disgrace; Dr. Antonio Drummond, who executed his father's orders; Manoel Elias, who guarded the Africans; Manoel Fidelis, who betrayed the captain, and delivered him to Colonel Drummond; and Antonio da Silva Pereira, who assisted at the capture, are all prosecuted.

What deductions can be drawn from these facts, what conclusions arrived at, but that the late Government intended to discourage these commendable acts, and, whether purposely or not, the fact is patent, to neutralize all chance of a successful prosecution of the real culprits, by placing amongst the

accused those whose evidence alone could convict them, but which could not then be legally received?

5thly. Dr. Antonio Drummond, one of the chief captors of the slaver, has been in confinement for six months; he surrendered voluntarily, and the offence of which he is accused is bailable, but his repeated applications for this constitutional right have been refused. The late Government made no effort to arrest the other actors in this affair, and it is only very recently that Chico Caçador surrendered, but that act so immediately followed the refusal of the *Relação* of Dr. Antonio Drummond's last application, that it seemed, as is reported, to have been arranged by the Government, to save appearances.

Is not this suspicion supported by the facts? and does it not appear that the prosecution of Dr. Antonio Drummond has degenerated into persecution? When such extraordinary and apparently illegal harshness is shown to the opponents of African Slave Trade, is it to be supposed that any man now living upon the coast will, upon any future occasion, support the external engagements and the municipal laws of the country, by following an example which has led to results so fatal to the happiness of an honourable family?

6thly. The public announcement by the Government that three times the value of the stolen Africans would be given to any person delivering them up to the authorities, may have been, as urged, a matter of expediency, but it was an impolitic acknowledgment of weakness, and, as it was unaccompanied by the arrest of their vendors, an encouragement to the Slave Trade perfectly incomprehensible.

Finally, after a lapse of eight months, 28 Africans still remain in captivity, and not an individual has been punished who was engaged in this nefarious transaction, and this under the administration of a President supported not only by the acknowledged policy of the Imperial Government, and the stringent laws of the country, but by a large military and police force, had he deemed it necessary to employ them.

No. 21.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Jerningham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 15, 1856.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo, and I have to acquaint you that I entirely approve the communications which you have made to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs upon the subject of the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Government on the 7th of March last, warning them of the measures which Her Majesty's Government would be compelled to adopt if the Brazilian Government did not act up to their engagements in regard to the repression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 22.

M. Moreira to the Earl of Clarendon.

*Imperial Legation of Brazil, London,
July 21, 1856.*

(Translation.)

THE Commendador Carvalho Moreira presents his respectful compliments to his Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, and has the honour to send him the inclosed Memorandum, in reply to what his Excellency addressed to him on the 24th ultimo.

Inclosure in No. 22.

Memorandum.

IN the Memorandum which Lord Clarendon, on the 24th of June last, addressed to the Minister of Brazil, in reply to what the latter had written to him on the 9th of that month, his Excellency said, in substance, as follows :

That the cause of the instructions which gave rise to the note forwarded by Mr. Jerningham, on the 7th of March last, to the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Brazil, was not only the fact that the authorities of Pernambuco had, on the occasion of the attempt of Serinhaem, exhibited a degree of negligence which bordered almost upon connivance, but also that they had manifested an unwillingness to employ efficient measures to discover and punish the persons involved in that affair.

This opinion of Lord Clarendon is based upon three assertions :

1. That the President of Pernambuco had purposely removed the police authorities of the district of Serinhaem, in order to put the slave-ship in safety, and to protect the landing of the Africans, in which some of their friends were interested.

2. That the same President had ordered, of set purpose, that the suit should be prosecuted at Rio Formoso, instead of its being done at the Barra, at which place there would have been persons who might have declared who were the guilty parties that carried off the Africans.

3. That with the view of revenging himself on Colonel Drummond and his son, to whom the capture of a large number of Africans in Serinhaem is due, and in order to destroy the only existing ocular testimony, the President had given orders to include Dr. Drummond, and other persons who had taken an active part in their capture, in the suit as criminals, mixed up with some of the real criminals.

Lord Clarendon concludes his Memorandum by saying, that neither of these points was refuted by the Minister of Brazil, but that, however, if it were verified that the dismissal of the President and of the head of the police of Pernambuco had taken place in consequence of the disapproval of the Imperial Government of the conduct of these functionaries, the British Government would readily admit that the principal causes which dictated the note of the 7th of March were removed.

It clearly appears from the Memorandum of Lord Clarendon that his Excellency is satisfied that the Imperial Government had done, on its part, all that was incumbent upon it to do on the occasion of the affair of Serinhaem, since what was stated in relation thereto by the Minister of Brazil in his Memorandum of the 9th of June, did not suffer the smallest contradiction, nor even meet with the slightest objection, in his Excellency's reply.

It is, however, greatly to be regretted, that after such full explanations upon all the details of that affair, direct accusations are now revived against the ex-President of Pernambuco, so gratuitous and so unjust that they certainly would not have been accredited in the Foreign Office, if the latter had known the impure source from which they proceeded. It was certain Opposition journals which, by hostility towards the Administration of the Province, invented and promulgated against that honourable and worthy functionary, calumnious insinuations which could not have been brought to the knowledge of Her Britannic Majesty's Government but by indiscretion or malevolence.

And if those inculpations of the said ex-President were not alluded to in the Memorandum of the 9th of June to be especially refuted, as the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon appears to object, this arose from the circumstance that the Minister of Brazil could not in any way suppose that the note of the 7th March could have been caused by inadmissible assertions, as well as by those which were substantive. Moreover, the minute statement given in the Memorandum of the 9th of June, proved by all the details of the case, excluded the admissibility of these imputations alluded to now by his Excellency. In the meantime, nothing is more easy than to demonstrate the injustice and incorrectness of similar statements which are completely refuted.

The assertion is absolutely without foundation, that any police authority within the limits of Serinhaem was removed by the ex-President of Pernam-

bucu, at the time when the attempt at landing took place, or even near its occurrence.

The complaint that the police authorities at Serinhaem were out of their posts of duty—a fact which Lord Clarendon would explain at present by a supposed removal, effected in anticipation and expressly by the ex-President of Pernambuco—had been made already, in Mr. Jerningham's note of the 13th November last, in consequence of communications which he had received from Pernambuco; and the Imperial Government replied to this topic on the 4th of December, in the following terms:—

“The very fact of the capture being effected on a depopulated coast, and when no one gave credit to the frustrated attempt at a landing of Africans, is a proof, *à priori*, that such abandonment and negligence on the part of the authorities at Serinhaem did not occur. An investigation into the circumstances in which the town was really placed, so far as relates to its judiciary and police administration, confirms what must be admitted, at the first view, to be necessarily the fact.

“The Judge de Direito of the District, the Municipal Judge, the Acting Delegate of Police, and the Commandant of the Police Detachment, were in the place, to say nothing of more subordinate agents. A place which is in such a condition is assuredly not deprived of its head, as the attempt has been made to cause it to be believed.

“It will be observed that the real Municipal Judge was on leave, and that the first substitute of the Delegate of Police, who executed this office during the illness of Colonel Drummond, had also been absent for some days previous to the appearance of the slave ship. This, however, does not prove that the said offices were abandoned, because their respective substitutes were in the place, and on duty.

“The two functionaries above alluded to remained on their posts for more than three months. They did not go away until the suspicions of an attempt at landing at that place were dispelled. And even if this well-known circumstance did not militate in their favour, their absence could not be attributed to an improper motive, because they are persons generally esteemed for their probity and zeal. In regard to one of them, there is also the consideration that the duties of Delegate and Sub-Delegate of Police, which are numerous in every province, are all discharged gratuitously, the gratitude of the Government of the country being the sole recompense of the citizens who perform them.”

And Mr. Jerningham was so well satisfied of the inaccuracy of such accusations, that when he replied to the note of the 15th of November by another of the 13th December, he did not affirm that the district [“termo”] of Serinhaem, and the “comarca” of Rio Formoso to which that district belongs, were left without a head, or without police authorities, for the premeditated objects which are now ascribed to the President; but passing by the accusation, and trusting to the words of the British Consul, Mr. Cowper, he would affirm that there was negligence on the part of some of the authorities of the province, &c. Now the fact that Mr. Jerningham could not maintain this point of attack, being aided in Brazil by the excessive zeal displayed by Mr. Cowper, who certainly would not hesitate to furnish the British Legation with any proofs in support of his information, fully demonstrates that such proofs do not exist, and that the desistence of Mr. Jerningham is due to his conviction that the statements of the Imperial Government are true.

The mere reproduction, therefore, of such accusation, without any proof, cannot have more weight than when it was put forward by Mr. Jerningham, replied to by the Imperial Government, and abandoned as not to be supported by the British Legation in Rio de Janeiro.

In regard to the second accusation against the ex-President, a simple remark will be sufficient to dispel it, because that accusation arose from an error respecting the division of the judicial office and the laws of criminal procedure in Brazil.

The “comarca” of Rio Formoso includes the so-called “termos” of Serinhaem and Rio Formoso united, and constitutes a single “termo,” together with another called Aqua Preta.

The police jurisdiction of the authorities of the united “termos” of Serinhaem and Rio Formoso is extended over the whole of the territory of that Judiciary Division; and the jurisdiction of the Chief of Police, who instituted the suit as

the highest authority, and the one most confided in, which is always required in important cases, is extended, not only over one "comarca," but over the whole province.

On the other hand, according to the laws of criminal procedure in Brazil, the witnesses are called to give evidence in the respective suits to the place where the suit is legally to be opened; and this place must be the head of the "termo" where the jurisdiction ["fôro"] is, and where the Courts are.

Now in the case in question the suit was regularly instituted in Rio Formoso, because it was the head of the "termo," and by the highest police authority of the province, apart from all local influence.

Therefore the witnesses who were to give evidence in the case were, quite legally, called to Rio Formoso, and certainly persons were called there from Barra, and the neighbourhood of the place where the offence was committed.

From this simple statement it results, therefore, that there was not the least irregularity in the institution of the suit, so far as relates to the competency of the place, nor was the discovery of the truth prejudiced for want of eye-witnesses, because all the persons who could have any cognizance of the fact were examined, and the inquiry could not have been more ample or more searching than it was.

The third imputation is in reality the most serious, of which the honourable character of a functionary of such a high class would be the victim.

In the absence of any proof to authorize it, and when it is not even possible to estimate the value of the source of the information which furnished its foundation, it cannot be admitted without danger of a gratuitous injustice; it might be that Colonel Drummond himself and his son, in the absence of defence, might have had recourse to an expedient common to all inculpated persons, when involved in crimes of complicity.

Besides this consideration, it cannot be passed over without remark that this and the second accusation are irreconcilable; as it is said in this that Drummond and other persons who took an active part in the capture were involved in the suit with the object of destroying the evidence of the only eye-witnesses that existed, and in the other it is asserted that there were in Barra other witnesses who might have proved the identity of the persons who committed the crime; for which reason the suit was instituted in Rio Formoso instead of in Barra.

It was Colonel Drummond who allowed the captain of the slaver to escape; and for want of the immediate steps which he ought and might have taken, as an authority that he was, and looking to the means at his disposal, he allowed time for the carrying away of the Africans, and the flight of the crew, who would otherwise have fallen into the hands of justice, if instead of commanding that a detachment should be got from Rio Formoso, he had assembled the national guards of this place, and had with that force immediately captured the vessel.

The English Consul in Pernambuco himself declared to the President that Drummond had revealed to him this criminal conduct of his in having allowed the captain to escape, as it has already been stated in the Memorandum of the 9th June.

In the investigation of the suit, his son, Dr. Drummond, appears as the author of the first theft of 10 of the Africans brought in the vessels previous to the capture effected by the Commandant of detachment from Rio Formoso.

He adds, that Colonel Drummond himself interposed obstacles, and impeded the action of the authority carrying on the suit, certainly not by his innocence.

These and other facts which are proved in the suit, must necessarily result in the guilt of Dr. Drummond, and draw upon his father the responsibility which falls on a public officer who fails in his duty.

To arrive at this result it would assuredly not be necessary that the President of the Province should, by means of an independent Magistrate, as the Chief of the Police is, exercise revenge against a Delegate of Police nominated by that President, and whom he might dismiss at his pleasure, but whom, on the contrary, he commended, under the immediate impression that the capture was successful, and when he was yet ignorant of the real circumstances subsequently ascertained.

This, as well as the other accusations, are only based on rumours spread

abroad by political adversaries, who falsify everything in order to stain the reputation of authorities whom they wish to overthrow; they ought not to be received when destitute of proofs corresponding with the seriousness of the accusation; for, admitting the opposite principles, no country in the world would see its authorities without accusations and insults, if we listen to what is usually said by journals opposed to this or that Government, where freedom of the press exists, as in Brazil.

Such is the value of the accusations raised against the ex-President of Pernambuco, with which Lord Clarendon justifies the unexpected note of the 7th of March.

And if, notwithstanding that the motives for forwarding that note are disproved, as the Minister of Brazil considers them to be by this Memorandum, the British Government still reserves to itself the liberty of appreciating so unjustly the acts which took place in Brazil, to such a point as merely to admit that the principal causes for such an undeserved offence would cease if it were the fact that, in dismissing the President and the head of the police in Pernambuco, the Imperial Government had it in view to give a mark of disapproval to the conduct of those functionaries, the same Imperial Government will remain in its full right to estimate the occurrences of its own country, and the conduct of its own authorities according to the rules of justice by which it is guided; the Minister of Brazil only regretting that he has not been so fortunate as to be able to convince Her Britannic Majesty's Government how inaccurate and unfounded the elements are on which his opinion was formed. He declares, therefore, that far from being able to admit that those functionaries were removed for having incurred the censure and disapproval of the Imperial Government, on the contrary, he knows positively that his Government has approved the acts of the ex-President Councillor José Bento da Cunha Figueredo, and that his dismissal was certainly granted because he solicited it, or that the Government thought proper to grant it for reasons absolutely unconnected with any mark of reprobation of his conduct.

And in regard to the Head of the Police, whose dismissal is not known to the Minister of Brazil otherwise than by the Memorandum of Lord Clarendon, he believes that the reasons are the same as those stated in the case of the ex-President.

The Minister of Brazil considers that he has sufficiently weighed, in his Memorandum of the 9th of June, the unpleasant results upon the relations of the two countries which the note of the 7th of March has brought about, involving a new offence to the independence and sovereignty of Brazil, as it is a threat to carry into effect the Act of the English Parliament of 1845, a violence against which the Imperial Government has always formally protested.

The Minister of Brazil has always hoped, and he still hopes, that if Her Britannic Majesty's Government were well informed of all the facts and occurrences of Pernambuco, it would not refuse the just reparation solicited in the Memorandum of the 9th of June.

But fresh causes for refusal still are alleged in the reply of his Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Clarendon, though now these causes ought to disappear in view of the explanations here detailed; and the Minister of Brazil does not see a single reason to insist on the continuance of the offence which produced the note of the 7th of March, so much the more as the threat contained in that note is unjust, whether by the especial fact of what occurred at Serinhaem, or by the general circumstances in which Brazil stands in reference to the Traffic.

However the occurrence at Serinhaem be appreciated, its result is not disputed, and from that it is ascertained that barely 26 Africans have until now been able to elude the hands of justice. That is precisely the number of Africans that have entered into Brazil within these four years.

In 1852, a period much nearer to that of the difficulties with which the Imperial Government had to contend for the suppression of the Traffic, and more liable to the dangers of its continuance, the British Government commanded the suspension of the orders issued to its cruisers for the execution of the Bill of 1845; now, in very different circumstances, only for an attempt, which, too, was frustrated by the Brazilian authorities, Brazil is menaced with a renewal of the orders to the English cruisers to carry that Bill into execution.

As to what concerns the general circumstances of Brazil in relation to the

Traffic, the Minister of Brazil confines himself to describe them in the few words uttered with equal truth and justice by the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Lord Palmerston, in the House of Commons, on the evening of the 15th instant:—

“He thought,” his Excellency said, “the Slave Trade might be regarded as extinct in Brazil, for though attempts had been made to revive it, those attempts had not been attended with much success. Those who formerly invested their money in this Traffic now employed it for purposes of internal improvement, and there was generally evinced throughout the country a spirit of hostility to the revival of the Trade.

“There had, however, been a great mortality among the slave population, and speculators from the United States had endeavoured to take advantage of the circumstance by importing negroes, but he believed that very little success had attended their efforts.”—(“Times” of the 16th instant.)

In this state of things the Minister of Brazil cannot but repeat that there can be no plausible reason to insist on maintaining the offence received, and that it tends solely to produce unpleasantness in the relations between the two countries, which for so many reasons it is desirable to remain always intact, and in the condition of perfect friendship.

London, July 21, 1856.

No. 23.

Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 25.)

(Extract.)

Pernambuco, June 24, 1856.

THE captors of the Serinhaem slave-vessel are still prisoners, the chief culprits still at large, and 29 Africans still in slavery.

CORRESPONDENCE between Great Britain
and Brazil respecting the Slave Trade.

*Presented to the House of Lords by Command of
Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address of
July 21, 1856.*

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